

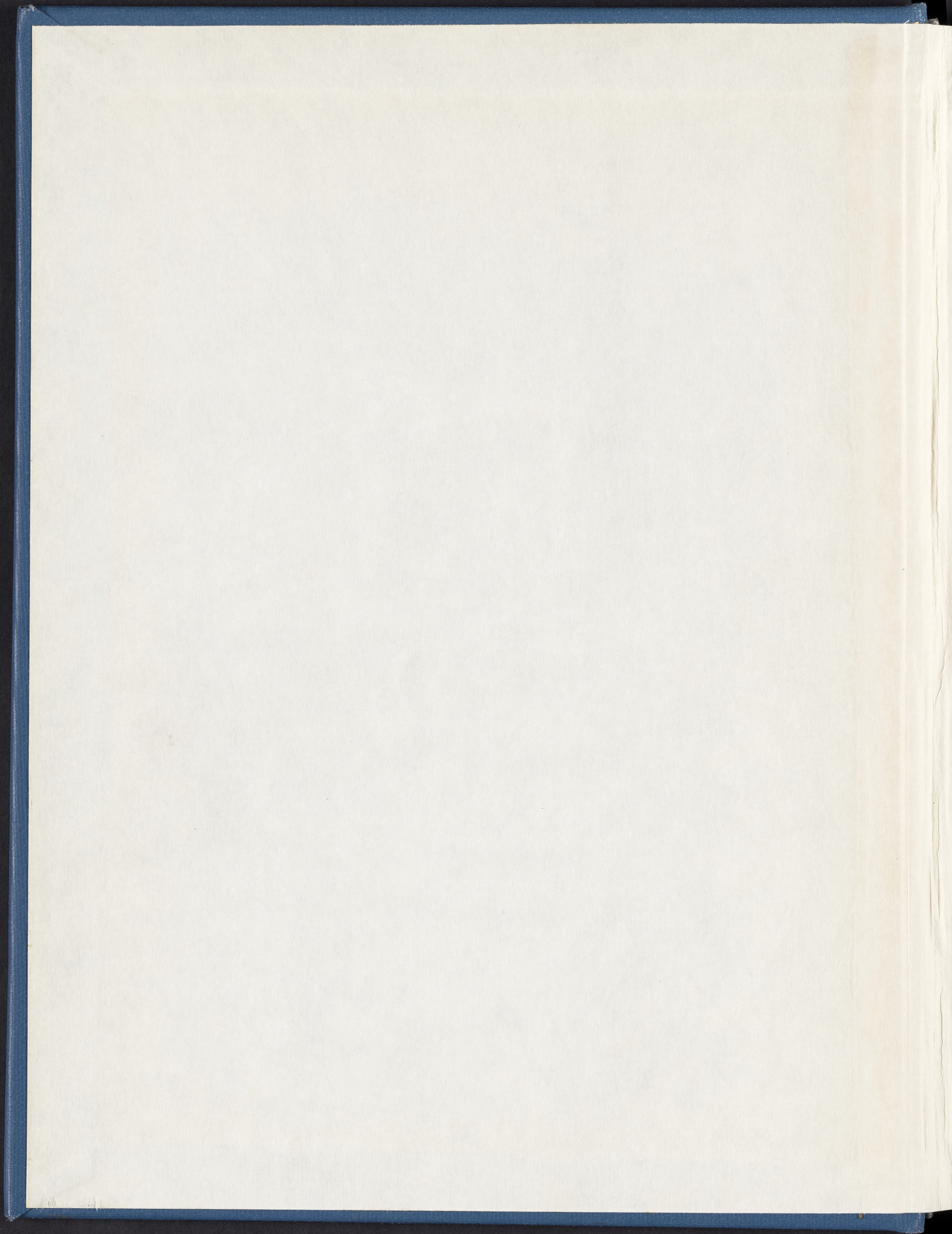
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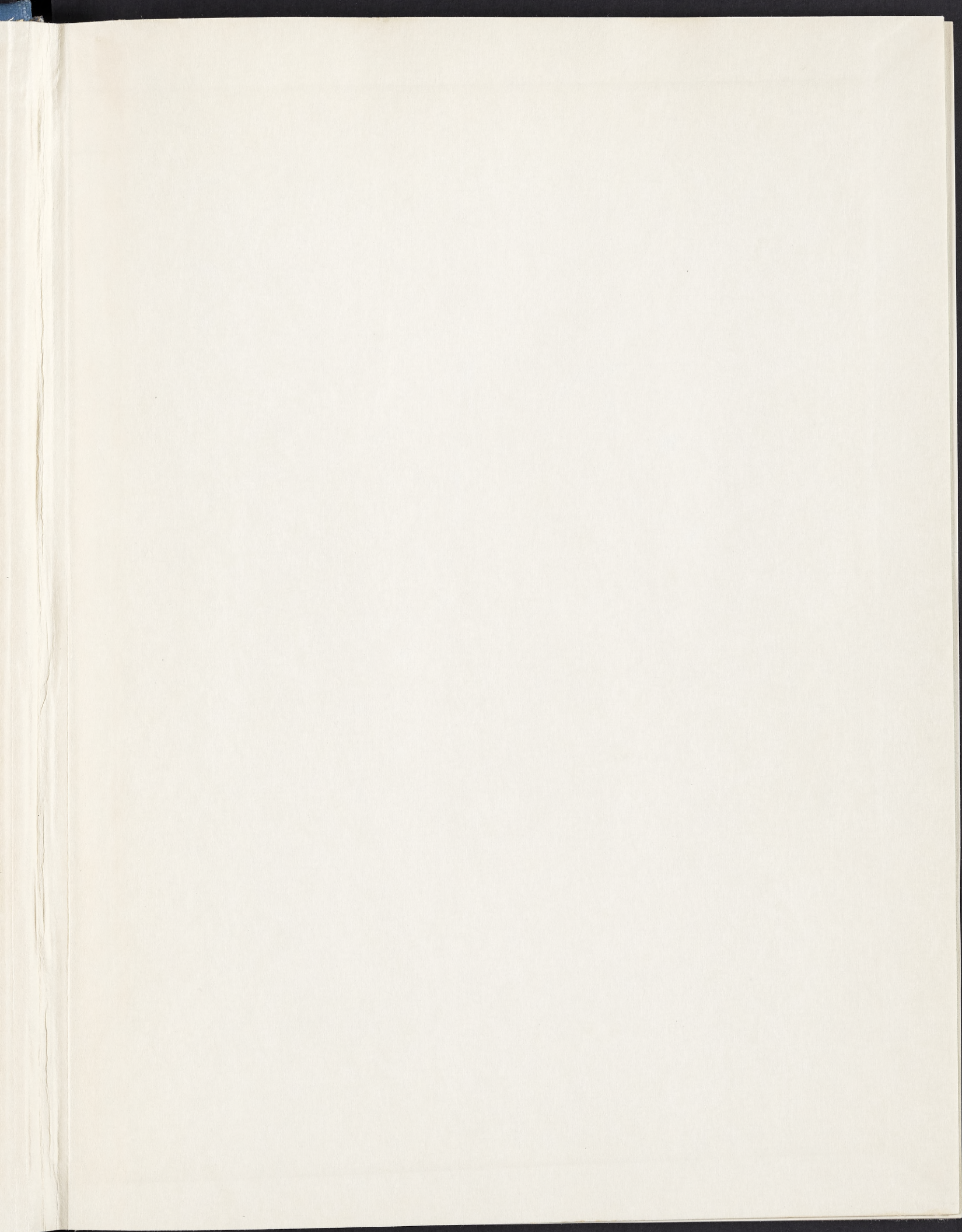
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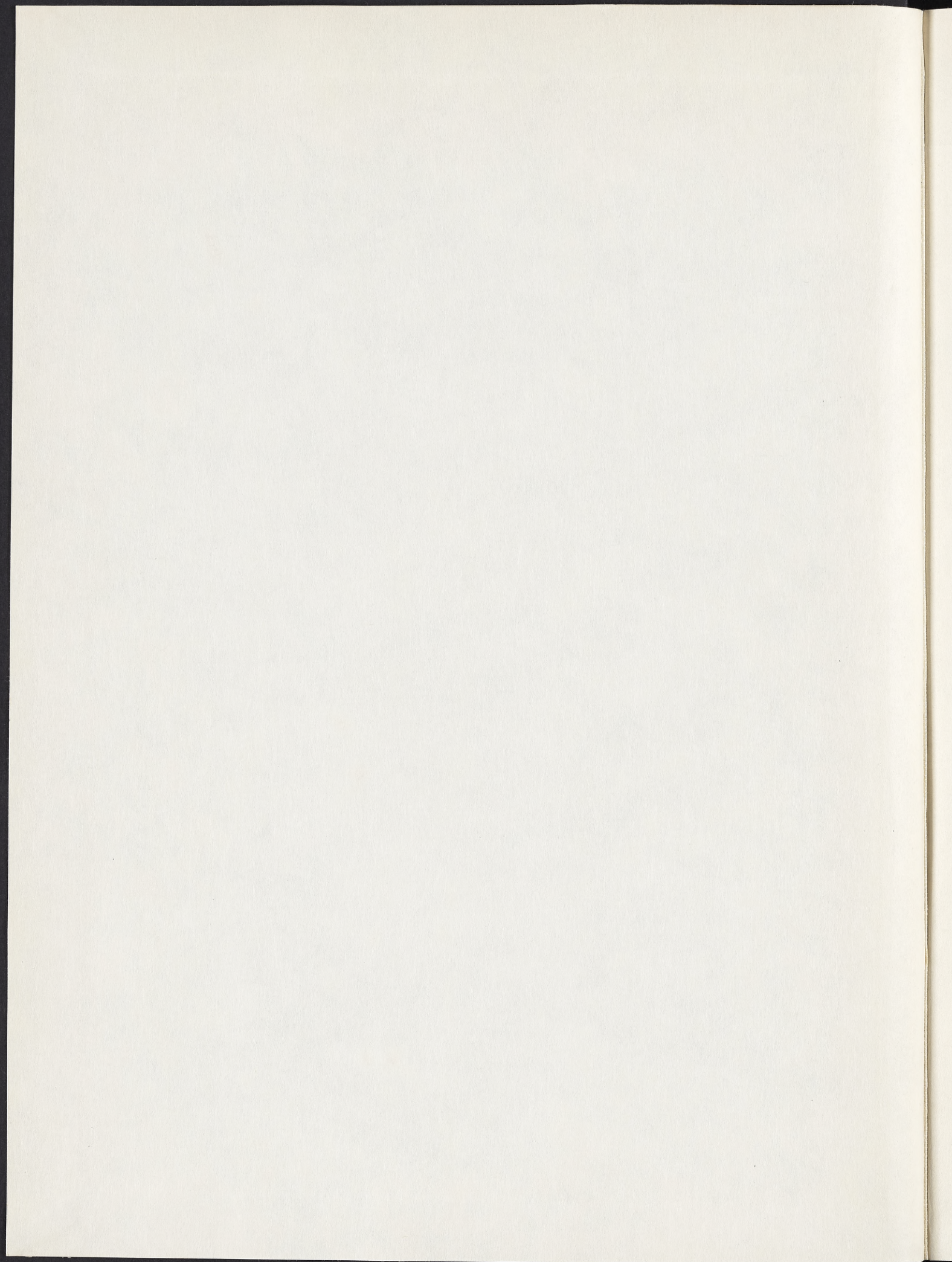
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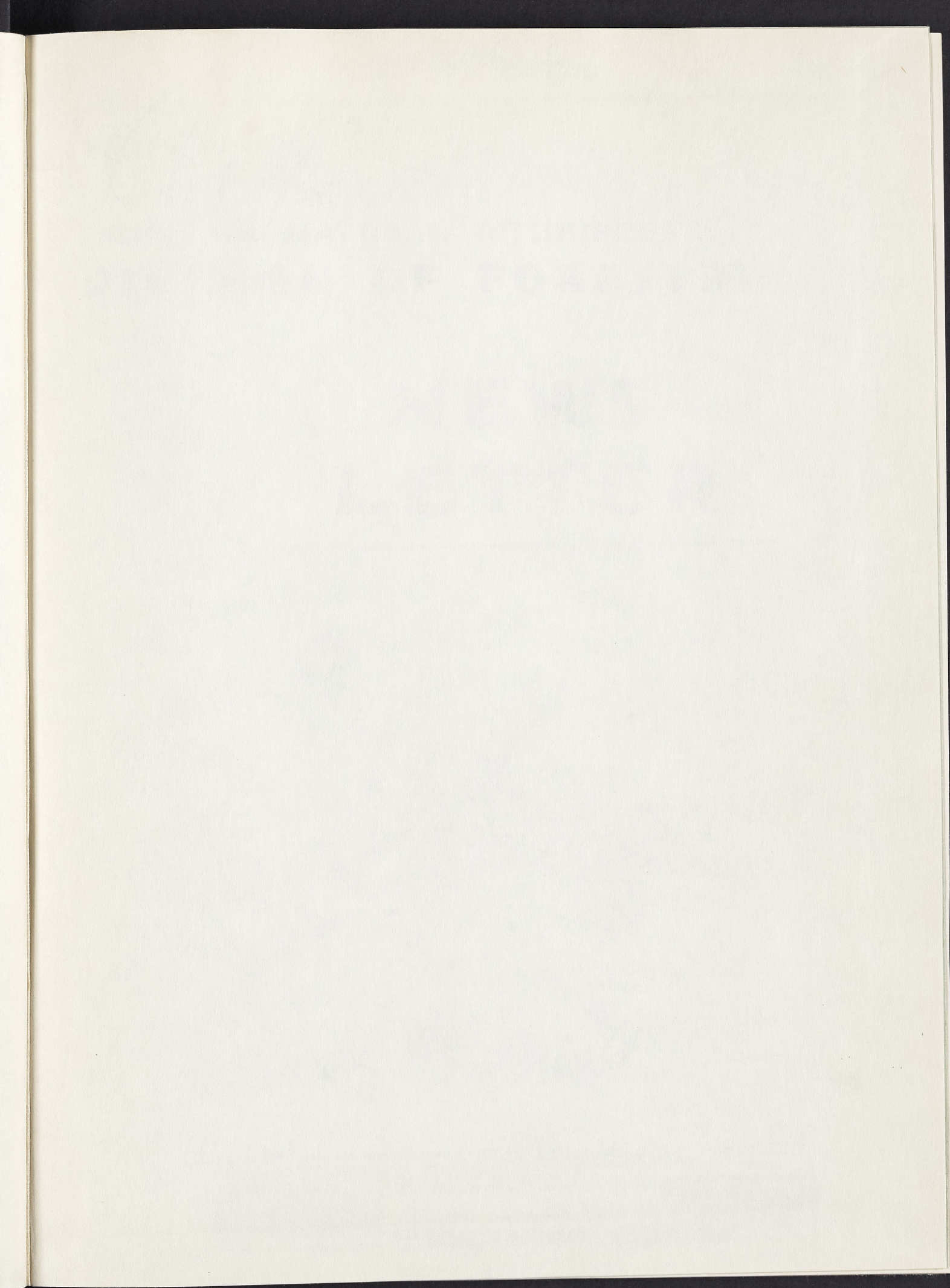
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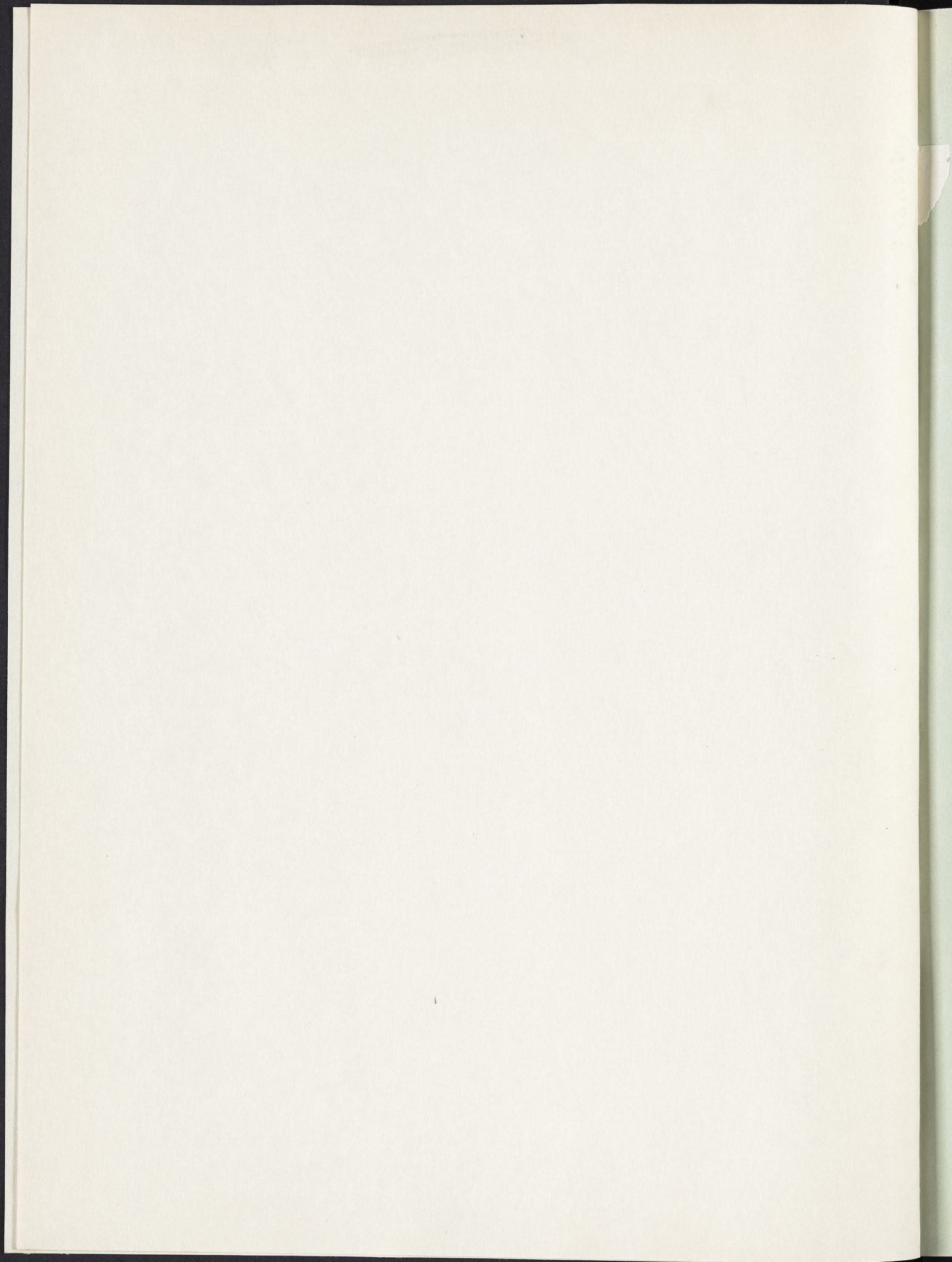
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State of
California

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

JANUARY
1954
VOL. 13 NO. 1



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Fire season in all districts except VI was officially ended on November 15 when rainfall dampened the area enough to prevent fires from spreading to the extent that they could not be controlled by the winter work crews.

Generally the season was about normal throughout the state with the exception of extending longer than normal into the month of November.

The comparison of the 1953 season to the previous five years to November 20 stands as follows:

NUMBER OF FOREST FIRES

<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
1,936	2,606	2,387	2,302	2,291	2,121

ACRES BURNED

Timber	13,570	12,258	38,036	16,405	20,438	3,063
Woodland	-	-	-	-	-	26,338
Brush	93,159	93,828	201,247	89,373	69,604	70,049
Grass	29,842	32,904	62,292	35,862	32,250	20,183
Hay-Grain	<u>487</u>	<u>562</u>	<u>1,231</u>	<u>207</u>	<u>2,156</u>	<u>950</u>
Totals	137,058	139,552	302,806	141,848	124,448	120,583

FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION: During the month preliminary plans were made for next Conservation Week. While the rains during the month eased off the pressure for immediate fire prevention activities, field personnel continued the use of educational films and local contacts directed toward future cooperation. In some instances radio and television continued with the use of fire prevention plugs and motion pictures. Plans were developed for hazard reduction work for next year. The use of chemicals as experiments to start during December.

FOREST MANAGEMENT: The Union Lumber Company of Fort Bragg was awarded the 1954 Timber Sale on the Jackson State Forest when sealed bids were opened on November 19 by Deputy State Forester C. W. Fairbank in Fort Bragg. The timber offered for sale included approximately 6,000,000 board feet of redwood and 2,400,000 board feet of Douglas fir. Successful bid stumpage price was \$11.78 per thousand board feet for redwood and \$6.60 for Douglas fir. The sale area comprises some 280 acres and is located about 20 miles east of Fort Bragg in the Chamberlain Creek drainage of the state forest.

The Forest Practice Committee for the South Sierra Pine Forest District met in Sacramento on November 16 to discuss revision of the forest practice rules for the South Sierra Pine Forest District. Tentatively the committee plans to conduct public hearings during mid January in Placerville, Truckee, and Sonora, and Fresno to hear testimony from timber owners, operators, and the general public regarding proposed changes in the rules before submitting a set of proposed rules to the State Board of Forestry for approval. Mr. C. L. Morey of Fiberboard Products Inc., San Francisco, was unanimously elected as the new Chairman of the Forest Practice Committee of the South Sierra Pine Forest District succeeding George Volz of Placerville.

The Forest Practice Committee of the Redwood Forest District met in Scotia on November 18 to review current forest practice activities, to consider stream clearance problems in the north coastal area and to discuss bear damage to young growth timber which has become a serious problem in certain localities.

The California Pest Control Action Council met in Sacramento on November 5 to review forest insect and disease conditions in California.

The forest insect conditions as revealed by detection surveys during 1953 were reported by the Berkeley Forest Insect Laboratory with their recommendations for control action. In most areas of the state, forest insect losses are slightly improved. The most notable decreases in activity were displayed by the fir engraver beetle and the western pine beetle. The Jeffrey pine beetle, however, has caused accelerated losses in north NE California and the mountain pine beetle has increased generally throughout the west side of the Sierra Nevadas. Losses from the California flatheaded bores remain high in Southern California although most areas show some improvement. The most outstanding single outbreak reported was that of the lodgepole needleminer in Yosemite National Park which defoliated 46,000 acres of lodgepole pine in the area around Tenaya Lake and Tuolumne Meadows.

A brief report of blister rust control activities and progress in sugar pine delineation and appraisal work within California was also presented.

One thousand Jeffrey pine 2-0 root pruned trees were planted on the Mountain Home State Forest as an experimental fall planting by two assistant rangers, two foremen, and other District IV personnel. Another thousand seedlings were heeled in at Mt. Home for planting at a later date when weather conditions permit.

AUTOMOTIVE: Plans were completed for Pilot Model #4 and all Districts concerned have reviewed them. The unit is now under construction with about 25% completion at this date.

Pilot #5 (4-man, FWD, fire truck) is now under construction at the State Highway Maintenance Shop.

All sedans on the first order have been processed through Davis where they were equipped with sirens and lights and are now in the field.

The contract for construction of 6 medium tilt-bed transports was awarded to Foster Trailer Company. Three chasis were moved to the vendor and it is estimated that they will be completed by January 1st.

Three 168 Aljoa house trailers have been received for patrolman positions in Districts I, III, and IV.

ENGINEERING: Work is progressing on the combination barracks and mess-hall and on the equipment building at Ukiah F.C.S. and Point Arena F.C.S., both in Mendocino County.

The remodeling work has started on the Kitchen-messhall combination at Sonoma County Headquarters in Sonoma County.

Construction has started on the newly designed combination transport

shed and shop at Susanville Headquarters in Lassen County.

The contract has been let by Division of Highways for the moving of Siskiyou County Headquarters at Yreka.

Work is progressing on the combination barracks and messhall at Colfax F.C.S. in Placer County and also on the extension of the barracks at Sutter Hill in Amador County.

Work is progressing satisfactorily on Millerton F.C.S. in Fresno County and the station will be completed and occupied by the beginning of the 1954 fire season.

Foundations have been started for new buildings at Witch Creek F.C.S. and at Miramar F.C.S., both in San Diego County.

PRESS RELEASE (January 20, 1954)

California Director of Natural Resources, DeWitt Nelson, presented Miss Pearl Chase of Santa Barbara with an award for outstanding public service in the field of forest fire prevention last night. The presentation was made at the annual banquet of the California Conservation Council at the International House in Berkeley. Miss Chase is the Executive Vice President of the Council. In making the award, Mr. Nelson said:

"Miss Chase, it is my privilege, and I must say extreme pleasure, to present to you on behalf of the California Fire Prevention Committee an award for outstanding public service in the field of forest fire prevention.

"This award is the highest honor the committee can offer, other than the individual personal thanks and esteem which we, along with other conservationists, wish to convey to you tonight for your long and unselfish period of public service.

"As you know, the California Fire Prevention Committee comprises membership from industry, business, public utilities, transportation, civic groups, governmental agencies, and individuals, all of whom are personally interested in conservation.

"We are well aware of the vital part you have played throughout a major part of your life in the development of an expanding philosophy of conservation on the part of the people of this State. This activity has helped us greatly in obtaining their understanding and cooperation for the prevention of forest fires.

"Your long leadership in the observance of Conservation Week, your initiative and energy, has given forest fire prevention a very valuable early season impetus that has inspired the rest of us, in both private and public life, to carry on with the job throughout each fire season."

MARIA MOORS CABOT FOUNDATION RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS IN FOREST GENETICS

The Maria Moors Cabot Foundation is offering Research Assistantships for graduate study and research in forest genetics. The assistantships will enable students to matriculate in the Harvard Graduate School of Arts and

Sciences, and pursue half-time study toward a doctor's degree in biology, while engaged in research.

STIPENDS: Two assistantships with stipends of \$2400 each are available. They will be used to defray the student's tuition and living costs while in residence at the University.

TENURE: The assistantships will be granted for a single calendar year, beginning July 1. Upon satisfactory completion of the first year of residence, the student will ordinarily be eligible for an equivalent appointment for an additional year.

ELIGIBILITY: Graduates of American colleges and scientific schools of good standing, who have completed the normal four-year program leading to a bachelor's degree in one of the plant sciences, and who present evidence of ability to pursue graduate study, will be eligible.

BASIS OF SELECTION: Selection of applicants will be based on the student's undergraduate academic record, his practical experience, letters of recommendation from former teachers, and information obtained from interviews.

APPLICATIONS: Application blanks may be obtained from the Cabot Foundation, Petersham, Massachusetts. Applications must be filed by March 1, 1954.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

TULARE COUNTY

Beginning in early November, Mr. Richard Nevins, State Department of Education Fire Training Instructor, has been conducting structural fire training classes at nine of our rural Tulare County contractual fire stations. Upon completion of the second group of classes, about Christmas, Mr. Nevins will have trained about 35 of our paid drivers and approximately 140 of our volunteers. Plans now call for him to pick up this training again at ten more of our rural stations in February with all paid men and volunteers being trained by late spring.

Board of Supervisors has been very cooperative this year in purchasing water tankers for rural protection to operate in conjunction with pumpers. Since last April two additional tractor-semi tankers have been procured, one of 2,500 gallon and the other of 3,000 gallon capacity. This week authorization for the procurement of another 3,000 gallon semi was received. When this last one is placed in service we shall have a total of six tankers and 28 rural pumpers in operation in the Valley area. This will meet the Board of Fire Underwriters recommendations almost 100 percent and should cause considerable reduction in fire insurance rates to taxpayer-owners. A Fire Underwriters survey is expected this winter.

Up in the mountains stations have been closed for the winter, excepting those from which work crews are operating. Road winterizing is about done. The Badger Assistant Ranger residence is coming along nicely under the supervision of Ray Didier aided by Assistant Bill Haley, Foremen Sam Parker, Roy Gadbury, and Jim Word, Driver Jimmy Matney, Project Supervisor Johnny Clark and some of his able CDC men.

Preliminary survey on the proposed Blue Ridge power line was completed by Engineer Ted Rowe. Edison Company has evinced considerable interest locally in participating in this power line program as they have need for a repeater site that will cover their Big Creek-Florance Lake Stations. Tests have indicated to them that Blue Ridge will do the job.

Schedule B Assistant Rangers have embarked on a program of personal fire prevention contacts among ranchers and other mountain residents this winter. Contact cards will be kept for future reference for fire cooperative use or mail-outs.

Schedule A Assistant Rangers will concentrate on water surveys and industrial building inspections this winter, plus participation in Mr. Nevins' fire training program.

On January 15, 1954, we expect to play host at Visalia to the San Joaquin Conservation Forum, with the gathering to be conducted at the local Moose Lodge Orchid Room.

Annual City Fire Department banquets, usually held in the late fall, have been attended by the Ranger and some staff men, with the Ranger as speaker on two occasions. Mutual cooperation with the seven city fire departments has been excellent. Recently the Lindsay Fire Department sent seven men outside the city two miles to aid us on a serious structural fire. (We did not need pumper equipment). Two weeks ago the Dinuba City Council voted to add two additional stalls to the city fire house to adequately house the rural pumper and tanker at no cost to the county.

We are still actively existing here, but sometimes get a little too busy to talk about it. To some this might signify an inexcusable human failure, but to others this might be an attribute.

Bill Mann
State Forest Ranger

KINGS COUNTY

The annual Pot Luck Dinner held recently for employees of the Department in Kings County was well attended and several distinguished guests were also present.

A very generous meal was enjoyed followed by introductions and talks and climaxed by films of his travels in Alaska were shown by Mr. Berry Gilcrease, ex-supervisor.

Santa showed a little early and (as a token from the "gang") Curt, Mike, and Jack returned home each with a nice warm wool blanket to keep them warm.

Jack Couste
Associate State Forest Ranger

FRESNO COUNTY

Right after the Christmas Holiday, two men from our County Headquarters,

Eddy Dowling and Jack McHaley, both forest fire fighter foremen, and also one truck, were sent to San Bernardino to help control a brush fire. Eddy Dowling has been to a few of the San Bernardino fires this year and knows exactly what to expect when men and trucks are requested from out of their District.

All the Division of Forestry personnel and their wives, friends, and families are certainly looking forward to the Annual Division of Forestry District IV party this coming February. Knowing that District IV covers such a large area, only names are familiar to us but not their faces. So you can well imagine why we are so anxious to meet them personally and make new friends.

Ranger Pennington is on vacation till the end of December. His parents traveled all the way from Oroville, California, to spend Christmas with him. He certainly has been busy entertaining as well as dropping in the office to sign reports and doing away with miscellaneous duties so his work won't pile on him when he returns from his vacation.

Forest fire fighter foreman Carl Nielsen is instructing Forestry personnel qualified for foremen in the training and preparation of the foreman test. From reports of individual persons, Carl Nielsen is to be well commended for his personnel training.

Up to this present time, and only a few more days to go before the year is up, Fresno County has had a total of 1,255 fires. There were 1,051 fires last year as of December 1, 200 fires more than we had last year at the present time. Information received from our local forest fire dispatcher, "Pat" Meloney indicates that we are running neck and neck with Tulare County. I believe Tulare County are up in the 1,270's. That certainly is a lot of fires.

You can bet we're right proud of our County Headquarters here in Sanger. Why? Well, towards the end of the fire season, with the help of the few fire fighters we had, we gave the fire station a good house cleaning and made some new improvements on the buildings. The grounds are neat and well preserved, and in the barracks and mess hall, we now find cornice boxes over each window and green curtains. The day room has been painted a two-tone color - the bottom half dark green and the upper portion and ceiling light green. The personnel certainly are proud of their day room now. We are still striving for a better station and will have the station in ship-shape for the coming fire season.

Termite Sejera
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

KINGS COUNTY

Now that the holidays are in the past tense, work has resumed to about normal with the personnel building stations, rebuilding and painting trucks, revamping contact cards at the numerous stations and, of course, fighting various types of fires.

We have been averaging about two fires every 30 hours - not many for this time of year.

At last we have received some rain - about .75 inches in the past two days. Everyone is happy and I think, will feel a lot healthier too.

The duck and goose season has closed with no one down this way sick from over eating the choice birds this year. Wish you fellows would scare a few more down this way if you can for next year's shooting!

The Kings-Tulare Chapter CSEA got off with a good start this year - a good attendance and membership climbing fast.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

At our annual Christmas party on December 11, 1953, we had the pleasure of having as our special guests Mr. and Mrs. Carl Albertus and Ruth Smith from District Office. We hope they enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed having them. We were also glad to see that Robert White, now working out of Slack Canyon, was able to make it. Nearly everybody showed up for this event and a good time was had by all. Special credit goes to Associate Ranger Nash and his committee for doing a fine job in making preparations and decorating for the party.

On December 18, 1953, Santa Clara County's CSEA Chapter #36 had its installation of the 1954 officers, which was followed by the annual Christmas Party. Dispatcher Sam Garza was the out-going President who turned the gavel over to Harold Petersen of the Division of Highways. Sam was also elected General Council Delegate for 1954 and Foreman Eugene Tarp was elected Sargeant-at-Arms, so you see Forestry is pretty well represented in CSEA. Under the supervision of Eugene Tarp, who was in charge of the food and entertainment committees, the party turned out to be a big success and everybody had a wonderful time.

A surprise baby shower was given recently to Mrs. George Ragan, with Mrs. George Britton acting as hostess for the evening. Helen Skeels and Hilma Burch were in charge of the games and refreshments. The Ragans (he is Schedule "A" driver at Morgan Hill) are expecting their second child the latter part of January, or will it be twins?

Quite a few of the boys have been showing up with new cars lately. Assistant Ranger Skeels' Christmas present to himself and Mrs. Skeels was a pretty green Plymouth. Who needs Santa Claus in a case like this? "Tomato soup red" is the color of Ken Johnson's new Jaguar. Ken makes a specialty of giving a ride to anyone who is interested. Both Associates Nash and Weatherford have received their new State vehicles.

We are pretty proud of our Headquarters Station here at Morgan Hill, now that our landscaping project is nearing completion. Our one-half acre of lawn in front of the office is coming up nicely after it's finally started to rain. Special consideration is to be given to Foremen Newton and Miller, Driver Cronin, and the other boys who spent many nerve-racking hours patiently weeding, leveling, raking up the rocks, and seeding the area. Lawn has also been planted between the mess hall and barracks, and on the west side of the barracks. Our range improvement plot is becoming quite a project, with 62 varieties of range and pasture grasses having been planted so far.

Well, now that the holiday season is over and everyone is back from

vacation, work is being resumed on the scheduled work projects. At present the crew is working out of Del Puerto repairing the telephone lines in that area.

Dorothy Magioncalda
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Mt. Diablo Mountain, located in Contra Costa County, is approximately ten million years old.

Mr. Purcell, an author, has written the history of the Devil Mountain, and he states the rocks of Mt. Diablo are mostly sedimentary and contain strata which yield fossils of larvae, invertebrates, fishes, amphibians, reptiles (and Forestry personnel during fire season).

Mt. Diablo base meridian was established by Col. L. Ransome in 1851. It is a view point from which almost two-thirds of California can be visible on a clear day. The State of California took over Mt. Diablo in 1921 and later declared it a State park. As a State park it is a very popular camping and picnic grounds. Park records indicate several thousand people visit it every week.

This year Forestry experienced four fires within the park. The potential has always been there, but the Walt Winters motto, "Hit them hard and stay with them" has always been practiced, so the acreage was kept to the minimum.

Next fire season when you hear KMD 756 you'll know it's Mt. Diablo Lookout at 3849 feet elevation and transmitting on Channel 2-7.

E. R. "Sam" Garza, Dispatcher
Santa Clara County

DISTRICT VI

Biggest news for District VI lately has been the continuation of fire season: Only $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches of rain since July 1, with 70-80 degree daily temperatures and lots of dry winds in the exposed areas. It's Chamber of Commerce stuff for the protected Los Angeles basin but not for fire fighters. However, even L. A. City caught the works on December 27-28 when dry north winds reached 30-40 m.p.h. and well over that in the high country and main canyons. At the Kaiser Steel Mill, twenty miles west of San Bernardino, winds were clocked at 101 miles per hour during the peak of the "blow." The USFS December 12 fire in the Baldy Recreation Area of the San Bernardino Mountains rekindled and doubled itself to 8,000 acres. Just a few miles west in the Angeles Forest, the Monrovia Peak Fire started and burned 15,000 acres of probably one of the most important watersheds in Southern California. The 100,000 people and their property lying just under these now steep baren slopes are threatened with untold millions of dollars' flood damage with only normal rainfall. Among the famous landmarks is the Santa Anita Race track. The watershed itself contains Mt. Wilson with its 100-inch telescope and half dozen television towers and even more important, the wettest spot in the U.S. where 25 inches of rain once fell in 24 hours. That gives you an idea why this

watershed is so valued. The California Division of Forestry, of course, rolled its resources into both fires. At one time, the Monrovia Fire had 15 bulldozers and 61 fire trucks in action, some from as far as Kern County.

The continued dry weather has greatly increased fire incidence; there being 341 in the District during December compared to a normal 128. However, only one fire reached Class D or E and it was stopped the first night. The District total fire incidence for the year approached 4,000; the greatest number, 1,267, occurring in Riverside County. Today's weather (January 7th), rain north of the Tehachapis and sun southward, indicates no early change from present fire weather status.

During all of the above, the District party took place in Orange County December 12. There was a lull in wind and fire that evening and many men literally came from the fire lines. However, they went back the next day when weather conditions again became adverse.

The District Office is all in a rash with diapers appearing here and there. Our Accounting Technician II, Mel Worrel, washes nights now for little Jerry Ray born December 28. That's three boys and no girls--yet! Only today, Mrs. Eugene Bertsch presented our Assistant Deputy with Mary Joan Bertsch. That's two girls out of three for Gene. Incidentally, Mel Worrel is leaving soon after six years of most valued service here. Seems that three boys need a lot of hay and it's available at "Finance" in Sacramento, so it's goodbye soon. We'll certainly miss him. So will CSEA Chapter 88 who had him as their Secretary last year. The very best of luck to Mel in his new spot.

Old Man Santa Claus minus beard, who surprisingly resembled Fred Dodson, delivered the District's brand new GMC medium transport--just exactly what we needed.

Doug Glenn
District Dispatcher

ORANGE COUNTY

On December 1, 1953, Forest Fire Fighter, Harry J. Collentz retired from State service with the California Division of Forestry. Mr. Collentz had reached the compulsory retirement age. He has worked in Orange County since January, 1943, and was the last man in Orange County to hold the job of Civil Service Fire Fighter.

The retirement of "Shorty" (Mr. Collentz was well known by this name) was deeply regretted by all employees of Orange County. We all wish Shorty many years of health and happiness in the years to come to enjoy his well-earned retirement.

Shorty was a very faithful and conscientious employee, and made many friends during his period of employment with us. We all miss him very much, and there definitely seems to be something missing because of his absence.

J. A. Scherman
State Forest Ranger

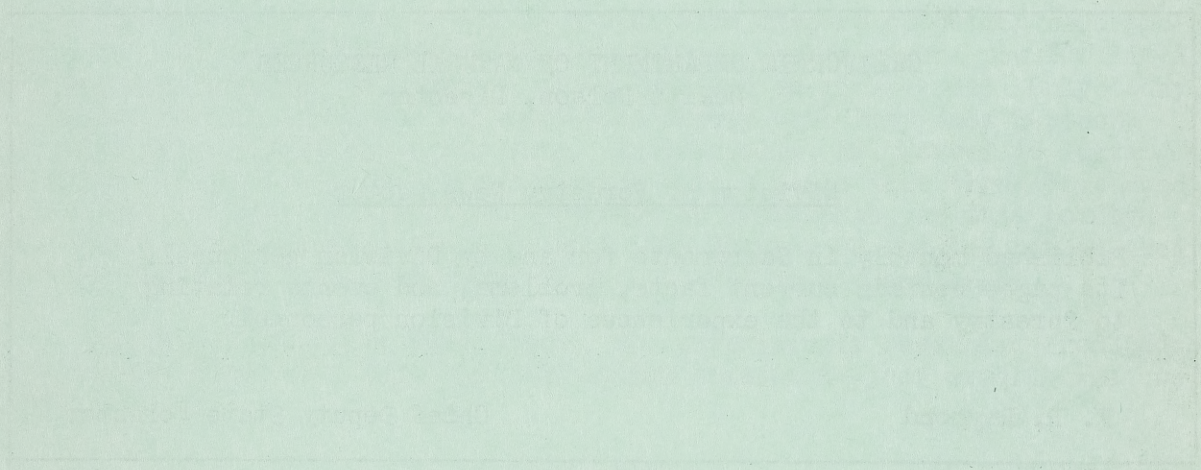
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DeWitt Nelson, Director

Division of Forestry News Letter

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel.
Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating
to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. Raymond

Chief Deputy State Forester



*State of
California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

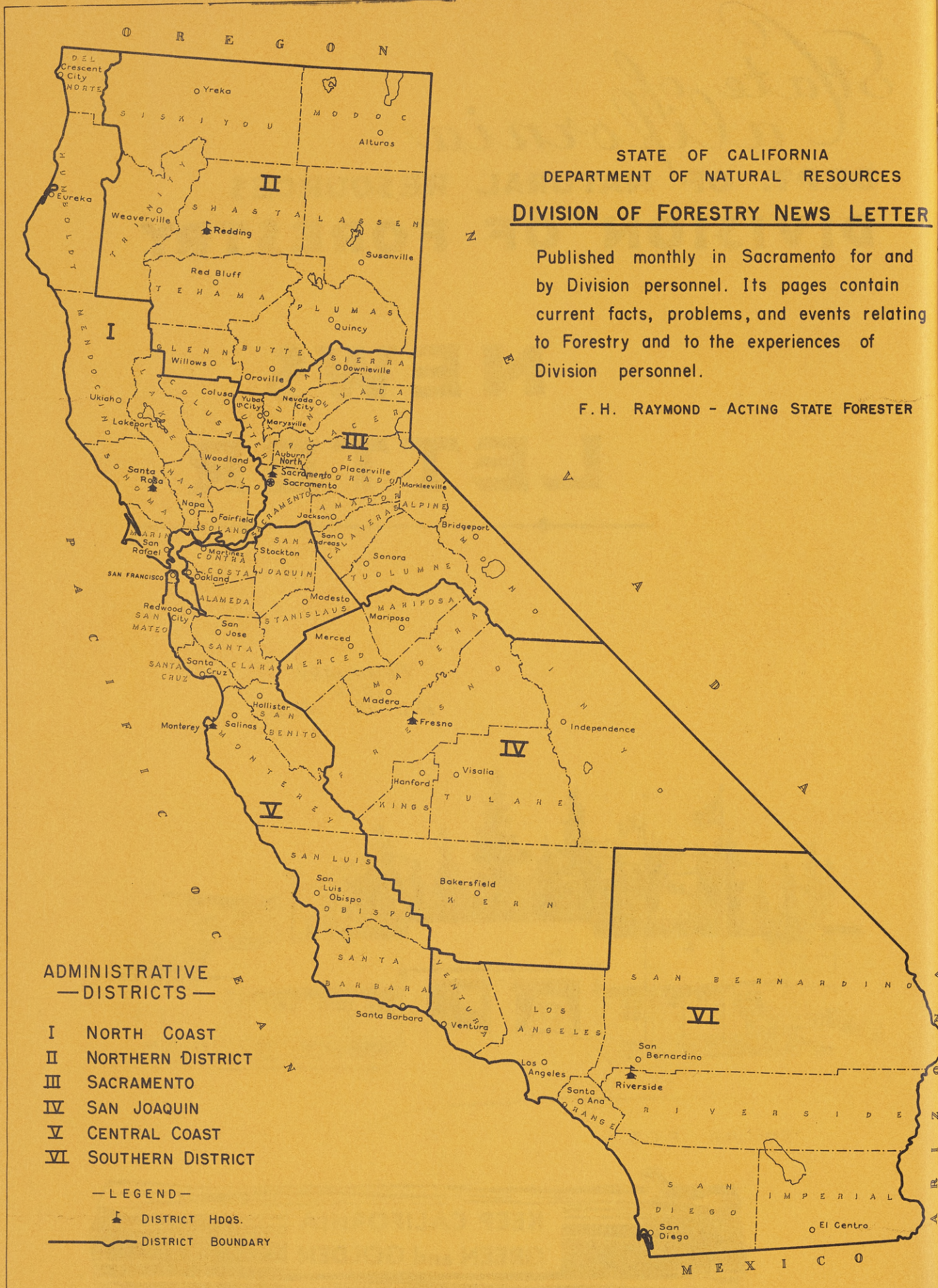
NEWS LETTER

FEBRUARY
1954
VOL. 13 No. 2



TEMECULA F.C.S.





STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The continued drought in Southern California has made it necessary to continue intact the fire control organization in District VI to the end of the month. (The season in this district normally ends on December 15).

Unusually warm weather and high velocity east winds up to 70 and 80 M.P.H. kept our forces on the jump throughout the entire month. Although there were many fires started, our control attack forces, with their usual good performance, effected control before any of them became large fires.

Not so fortunate, however, was the U. S. Forest Service in the Angeles Forest where two serious and damaging forest fires burned over about 25,000 acres of valuable watersheds, as well as a number of homes.

The first of these two fires occurred in the Cucamonga area and was called the "Barnett" fire.

This fire started by a broken power line at a time when east winds were blowing at 40 to 50 M.P.H. It was controlled in about one week at 6,000 acres and broke out again in succeeding high winds burning another 4,000 acres.

The Division of Forestry sent manpower and equipment to assist the Forest Service in the control of this fire.

The second fire started from what is believed to be a carelessly-tossed cigarette in the Monrovia area, burned for a week, destroying 15,000 acres of the most valuable watersheds in Southern California. Some homes were destroyed and the observatory and television stations on Mount Wilson were threatened.

There were a number of Civilian Defense fire trucks sent to assist the Forest Service and the Los Angeles County Forestry Department on this fire.

Due to steep terrain denuded by this fire, there is considerable concern that extensive flood damage will occur to cities below when the winter rains come.

FIRE PREVENTION: William H. Fairbank returned to the State Forester's Staff as Deputy State Forester in charge of Fire Prevention. Mr. Fairbank was drafted to the Governor's Staff and served there for over two and one-half years.

Division personnel attended the Western Forestry and Conservation Association Conference in Seattle, at which time "Keep Green" conferences were held and attended by them and representatives of the other western states and British Columbia.

The 1954 California Forest Fire Prevention campaign materials were received in Sacramento and will be distributed to the districts soon.

Field personnel continued with use of motion pictures and personal appearances in presenting fire prevention to adult and youth groups. Further plans for 1954 were developed, with portable exhibits for County Fairs as an important part of those plans.

FOREST MANAGEMENT: For the past several months the Forest Practice Committee of the South Sierra Pine Forest District has been studying revision of the Forest Practice Rules for that district. The current rules have been in effect since 1947. The Committee now wants to obtain the opinions of as many timber owners and operators as possible to guide them in revising these rules. Public hearings for this purpose have been scheduled in Placerville on January 11, Truckee on January 12, Sonora on January 13, and Fresno on January 14, 1954.

The Division of Forestry has sent notice of these hearings and the proposed changes in the South Sierra Forest Practice Rules to all known timber owners and operators within the district. Newspaper publicity throughout the area was also arranged announcing the hearings and urging all timber owners and timber operators to attend.

Some 2,400 red fir (silvertip) and white fir Christmas trees cut from the Latour State Forest in Shasta County were sold by the Division in Redding on December 1st, bringing a return to the state of \$5,701.00. These trees were sold by individual lots according to grade by competitive sealed bids. Prices ranged from 40.2 to 47.5 cents per lineal foot for silvertips, 28.2 to 34.5 cents per foot for white fir with one mixed cull lot selling for 8 cents a foot. This amounted to an average price of 44.0 cents per lineal foot for silvertips, and a price of 29.8 cents per foot for white fir; or an overall sales price of 39.6 cents per lineal foot.

According to a state-wide survey of Christmas tree utilization made by the Division of Forestry immediately prior to Christmas, a higher percentage of trees remained unsold during 1953 than in any year since 1945. Preliminary information indicates that about 24% of the trees offered for sale in 1953 remained unsold in comparison with 11% for 1952. The higher percentage of unsold trees this past season was probably due to the very mild winter experienced in the West, the lower level of economic activity, and the fact that high prices in the past few seasons have attracted new operators to the Christmas tree business. It is interesting to note that only 8% of trees available for sale in California in 1952 were cut in this state according to a recent study published by the Agricultural Extension Service.

A new "Timber Tips" guide sheet on forest soils and climate has been released by the Small Woodlands Council to acquaint small timber land owners with the characteristics of good forest soils and suitable climate for growing timber crops in California.

AUTOMOTIVE: A group of 9 crew trucks (#2 and #2 Special) are nearing completion at Superior Truck and Body Company, San Francisco. Delivery is expected around the middle of January. Four 4-man fire trucks and 3 Power Wagon crew trucks were received from Coast Apparatus Company, also received were 3 - 15' Aljoa house trailers for patrolman positions in remote areas and 3 medium transports.

Pilot Model #4 is 65% complete and Pilot #5 is 90% complete. Engineering details were completed on several projects in the development program with work to begin immediately.

A total of 37 old pieces of apparatus (sedans, pickups, cement mixers, fire trucks, panels, motor grader) have been prepared for sale which will be held

in January.

Two new lines of '54 model trucks were previewed. Increased horse power in both lines may necessitate a fresh look at present specifications and may require additional testing of new equipment.

Numerous discussions have been held with Department of Finance, Automotive Management, regarding this Division's repair program.

ENGINEERING: Materials are on order for the combination barracks and messhall at Los Posados Fire Control Station in Napa County. The sanitary system pumping station at Santa Rosa County Headquarters is now in operation. This unit pumps the sewage directly into Santa Rosa disposal plant.

Plans are now complete for the new shop and equipment building at Susanville in Lassen County, and the plans are also completed and material ordered for the messhall and kitchen unit at San Andreas Headquarters in Calaveras County. The radio repeater vaults and antennas at Black Mountain in Fresno County and at Blue Ridge in Tulare County are nearing completion and are ready for electric wiring and standby installations. The Copernicus Peak radio repeater vault in Santa Clara County is also ready for electric wiring. Construction has now started on Miramar Fire Control Station in San Diego County.

YUBA COUNTY

Many Division personnel have already been contacted by Boy Scout Council representatives in a plea for assistance in promoting their "Conservation Good Turn." To those who have not yet been contacted, it might be well to mention that this Boy Scout program for 1954 offers a world of opportunity to all conservationists and in particular to those Natural Resource agencies such as the Division.

I'm sure that all of us have wished at one time or another that we had a little extra help in distributing Fire Prevention material during the height of the fire season, or possibly, that we could get some help in cleaning up some of the roadside fire hazards, camping areas, etc. The Scouts' activities can be turned in even another direction - detection of insect infestations, and possibly they can even assist in actual control. Noxious weeds and brush control would be another excellent project.

The whole Boy Scout organization from President Eisenhower (Honorary President of the Boy Scouts) down through the Scout Executive, the troop and to the individual Scout is solidly behind this program to perform actual conservation projects - projects which will be determined in conference with local conservation technicians! Personnel in Yuba County are certainly happy to take advantage of this opportunity, and we suspect that others in the Division will also jump at this chance of accomplishing grass roots conservation.

H. P. Reinecker
State Forest Ranger

YUBA COUNTY CONT'D.

Division personnel here enjoyed the opportunity of getting together with Ranger LeRoy Neil and some of his gang from across the District border the

night of January 29. The occasion was a meeting of the Feather River Forest Forum held at the Cafe Vienna near Marysville. We noted with pleasure that Ken McDonald of Sacramento Box & Lumber Company at Woodleaf plugged "Keep California Green, Inc.", saying "It is necessary we eliminate fires from our lumbering industry; otherwise, we will have the public finger pointed at us as forest rapists. We've got to get the fire prevention message down to the last faller and choker-setter."

The Forum's speaker of the evening was State Assemblyman Don Hobbie whose topic "Problems of Log-Hauling on California Highways" proved an interesting one to all present. His service on interim committees studying legislation affecting the lumber industry has proved an eye-opener to him. Mr. Hobbie indicated, and he stressed how few people in California realize the importance of the industry. Also, he estimated that only about 5 out of 80 State Assemblymen are really familiar with the industry.

Discussing briefly the newly-enacted "butt log" bill which permits the hauling of single over-size logs on our highways, Mr. Hobbie pointed out some of the pros and cons of establishing tolerances in weight limits. He described in some detail the action which led to the recent "park down" by log-haulers in Humboldt County, and stressed the responsibility which the lumber industry and truckers' associations must carry to police their ranks to achieve compliance with existing laws and regulations and at the same time halt the placing of personal gain above the law. Although Mr. Hobbie voiced his accord with the establishment of definite weight limits on log loads, he also stated he favors certain clearly-defined tolerances which would permit log-loading at landings with a minimum of trial-and-error delays. He indicated his objection to the present system of enforcement which he termed "practically a trial and sentence on the spot" following the issuance of a citation for an overload violation. He favors taking into consideration a trucker's or a company's previous record when passing sentence and believes credit should be given those who are obviously attempting to obey the law.

Mr. Hobbie also discussed Natural Resource roads, stating that in the State of Washington a four-year study has been made by a committee formed of representatives of the lumber industry, universities, the State and allied industries. This committee has made a complete survey of all timber areas of that State, he related, establishing how much timber was in given areas, for how many years that timber would be harvested, what type of roads should be built to haul the logs to the mills, the distances the logs would have to be hauled, what type trucks would be best suited to haul the logs, etc. He added that numerous problems are being considered, such as whether industry would take part in the cost of building roads. Assemblyman Hobbie concluded by stating that although the problems are not solved as yet by any means, the Committee is nearing its goal.

Yuba personnel who sat in on this Forum meeting included Ranger Jerry Reinecker, Assistant Ranger Al Munson, FEO Ches Waklee, and Dispatcher Vern Cassell, all of whom enjoyed not only the program presented, but also the bountiful smorgasbord and steak dinner.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

MADERA COUNTY

Everyone in Madera County is now back from vacations and the winter-work program is shaping up well.

The Coarsegold CYA Camp is working on the construction of the Potter Ridge Road which will allow fire equipment to go from Coarsegold to Ahwahnee over the west side of Deadwood Mountain and the adjoining Potter Ridge. This has heretofore been a large rough area only accessible to crews on foot. The building of the road itself is quite a feat because of the steepness of the terrain in some places. The bulldozers have been making good progress and several miles have been roughed out. FEO Tom Peabody from Madera is operating the Coarsegold YT D-7 and Foreman Rich Ray, also of Madera, is operating the Madera D-4. The big cat works ahead and the little one works behind on culverts, etc., in conjunction with the hand crews from the CYA Camp. Barring heavy storms one should see a lot of road constructed in the next two months on this project.

We are also building the west Los Banos Creek Road in western Merced County. This road cuts off many miles which formerly had to be traveled to get into the Sweeny Hill Country. The road connects our existing French Pass and Sweeny Hill roads. The terrain is favorable for road building. FEO Dave Saether with the Fresno County TD-18 has been loaned to us for this job. FEO Percy Elam and the Merced HD-5 are also on this job. Culverts are being put in as we go and the road should be finished in less than a month.

In passing, may we advise that the operators have a high regard for the HD-5. This is the first work we have done with it since getting it in late fire season. It seems to have a lot of push for its size.

Assistant Rangers Stephens, Lewis, and Griggs are all making quite an effort this winter on contact card work and more of it is being done than has actually been done before. It is surprising the hazards one finds when one stops long enough in one place to really look for them. We also find many new sources of water. Problems of one kind or another with owners are often uncovered and straightened out right on the ground. We feel that the effort put into the contact cards will return to us with interest through lessened fire occurrence and cooperation and goodwill on the part of the local people.

The Madera County Fire Department closed bids on the purchase and buildup of a new replacement fire truck. The Ford dealer in Chowchilla is selling us a 1954 Ford F-800 with a 170 HP engine and P. E. Van Pelt will do the buildup. This will bolster our county responsibility fire control effort.

Assistant Ranger Al Kessler in charge of Schedule "A" activities is also working as time permits on contact cards. This problem in the county responsibility area is really a big one and will take much time if it is to be covered as it should. In this area we are plagued with the transient family-type dwellings very frequently found in a cotton-growing country with their accompanying rubbish burning, outside open cooking fires, and general carelessness and it is at the best, a very hard problem to deal with.

The Madera County Control Brush Burning Committee held its first meeting of the year on January 14 at the Spring Valley Hall at O'Neals to outline the coming seasons program. As yet, the total number of acres of brush-covered range to be treated with fire is unknown, but we estimate between

15,000 and 20,000 acres will be burned. Several large reburns will take place this year. We have already had preliminary inspections on several proposed burns using horses and jeeps. Each burn is looked over by local committees of ranchers at least twice before the burn is made, which calls for a lot of contributed time by the committee men and all persons concerned before the burn even starts. The contribution of time by everyone is one great factor in the success of the range improvement program in this area.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT IV

At a dinner meeting of the Fresno County Chapter of the American Red Cross in Fresno on February 11, 1954, Deputy State Forester, C. E. Metcalf, and Forest Fire Prevention Officer, J. D. Rafferty, were honored with the presentation of service bars in recognition of their services to the Red Cross in past years.

Deputy Metcalf received the ten-year award and Rafferty received the five-year service bar. Both Forest Officers are serving on the Red Cross Disaster Committee.

The presentations were made by Mrs. Strother P. Walton, wife of one of Fresno County's Superior Court Judges.

One hundred and thirty district employees, including their wives, gathered at the 509 Club in Fresno on February 5th for the annual district party. The honored guest of the evening was Foreman George Silvas of Tulare County who announced his retirement early this spring after a career of some forty years stomping out fires in the Tulare County area, the past fourteen years of which were as Foreman in the Tule Lake District.

The feature of the evening was Foreman George's farewell speech wherein he realized the ambition of many old-time fire fighters by laying it on the line, so-to-speak, and pointing out to some of his supervising officers how he led them about by the hand in the early days of their careers and inferred (not too indirectly) that by reason of the fire fighting techniques he imparted to these youngsters, they, today, hold key positions with the Division. Needless to say, all of the employees of the Division join in wishing George and Mrs. Silvas a happy holiday following his retirement.

Ranger Bruce Hufford, oftentimes referred to as the Sage of the Sierras, joined that select Quarter Century Club of public servants when he was presented with his twenty-five year pin by Deputy State Forester Metcalf.

All in all, the evening was a success and it is understood that when the oldsters went home at the time of night when oldsters should, the youngsters stayed on and played until the wee A.M.'s in the morning. As a matter of fact, we may give another party this spring and extend a cordial invitation to fellow employees throughout the state to join with us.

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

MONTEREY COUNTY

All seems pretty quiet in Monterey County this month, except one of your foremen at King City is sitting on pins and needles awaiting the new addition to his family - it seems "he" or "she" is overdue, but will let you know the details next month.

Recently employed was Forest Fire Truck Driver, William Jurian, Jr., who comes from Santa Clara County and worked there last fire season.

The Lockwood job is progressing right along in between the rainy spells. The foundation is almost completed and they are awaiting delivery of the blocks to go ahead with the program.

In the February issue of Modern Screen Magazine, there was an interesting article on Actor Rory Calhoun, who mentions Ranger Les Gum of Santa Cruz County as a very good friend and once his supervisor. We believe that the following excerpt will be of interest to many, especially those who worked with Calhoun in Santa Cruz County.

"Rory Calhoun says that his becoming an actor making good and finding the great love of his life was just one big series of lucky situations.

"From the time I left high school I'd been banging around the western part of the United States, picking up jobs wherever I could. There was logging and cowpunching, hauling nets for fish, truck driving and fire fighting. When I got fed up with one of them, I'd count up my money and run off with it to some new place. I had a bad case of wanderlust. The picture of my life didn't have any focus at all until my friend, Les Gum, suggested that I try my hand as a forest fire fighter. I didn't go for that because it paid a lot less than what I got at logging. Les was a friend of my dad's too - a California Ranger who'd been popping up at our dinner table ever since I could remember. Maybe it didn't pay as much money, Les pointed out, but the war was on and they needed men badly. It offered more opportunity and if I could swing the financial end of it, I'd learn a lot more that might come in handy to a man. That part got me. I started thinking that if I learned about woodcraft and botany and how to take care of myself in the wilds, I might use the knowledge some day to go exploring. I was just a kid then, and I was a real dreamer, but I wouldn't have dreamed anything so fantastic as doing my exploring in the wilds of Hollywood. Anyway, with the dreaming and the working, six months later I was a foreman with six men in my crew.

"It was during that time that I came to Los Angeles because my great-grandmother got sick. And then I met Alan Ladd. You have seen the letter I got from Les after I wrote him that I was going to stay down in Hollywood and try for the movies. He called me six kinds of a dog and then, being the great guy he is, wound up with, 'If you can't make the grade you can always come back here.' I haven't taken him up on it yet, but there were times when I was tempted. I forget about the drawing room scenes. I'd been in, and kept on breathing, brickdust by day and gas fumes by night, adding up sixteen hours of work every day."

In Rory Calhoun's latest picture, "How to Marry a Millionaire", he plays the part of a Forest Ranger.

Hilda Fabretti & Alice Johnson
Int. Steno.-Clerk. Int. Typist-Clk.

LETTER TO RANGER SCHERMAN - ORANGE COUNTY

"When I was in Chief Alderson's office last week, he showed me a copy of your Junior Fire Ranger Manual entitled "You Against Fire." He told me that in his opinion it was the finest thing of its kind that was ever published. He gave me the copy, and I brought it home, have read it, and must agree with John that it is a fine manual. I have never seen anything better and am sure that it must be doing great good.

"A lot of work has been put into this publication, and I congratulate you and all those who helped you in the work. The children in the schools who use this book are bound to be impressed, and they will not soon forget the lessons they have learned.

"Again my congratulations and highest commendation for the fine work you are doing.

"With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,
s/ Jay W. Stevens, Chairman
Fire Prevention Committee
International Association of Fire Chiefs"

DISTRICT VI

On January 11 and 12, rain returned to Southern California after an almost complete absence for twelve months. It was a good steady but never a heavy rain for two days; thus ended fire season down here. Most people rejoiced but in Sierra Madre, as we predicted last month, the barren steep 3,000 foot slopes spewed mud, sticks, rocks, and ash down on the city just east of Pasadena. Luckily for the city and nearby Monrovia, the rains stopped just as the slopes were becoming saturated, so--damage was limited to an estimated \$1,000,000. Fortunately again for the people, only one light rain has fallen since then and in fact, we've had ten days of cloudless-over 80 degree weather with 20% humidity and light winds. Perfect for everybody but farmers and fire fighters on winter schedule. At this writing, Riverside County has a 50 acre light brush fire!

Division personnel in Riverside County have been receiving a Driver Instruction and Testing Course. An interesting finding is that the average Forestry driver will, at thirty miles per hour, travel thirty-three feet before touching the brakes after encountering an emergency and the vehicle then travels another forty-five feet before actually stopping. The boys were so impressed by the discovery that we are now expecting a falling off next fire season on our travel time to fires.

Well, well! Wells all over the District. Only trouble is--not enough water welling up in the wells. Under pick and shovel at the present time are wells at Witch Creek, Ramona and DeLuz. Other water jobs recently completed were Morena CDC well, Boucher Lookout pipeline and Miramar pipeline. In the old days, we used to build stations and then get the water. Now, after eight long drought years, we are learning that first comes the water, then the foundations!

Recently received in the District, our thanks to District IV, is a big International Transport. Boy oh boy, how we have needed it along with the recently acquired new GMC medium. It appears that if our old "Gasoline Alley" Reo in San Diego can keep her skirts up, we might move most of our dozers next summer on initial attack. Sure will help us hold our campaigns down to the lucky (or something) figure of this past season of only three or four.

Lost from District VI to District I recently was Cy Holmes, Foreman and sometimes Assistant Dispatcher in San Diego County in recent years. Cy has a lot of good thinking capacity and an ability to make friends everywhere without saying much. He'll be a Foreman-Trainee up there. With him, of course, goes Mrs. Holmes, the daughter of Riverside County's Associate Ranger Wad Sherman.

Doug Glenn
Dispatcher

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DeWitt Nelson, Director

Division of Forestry News Letter

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. Raymond

Chief Deputy State Forester

*State of
California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

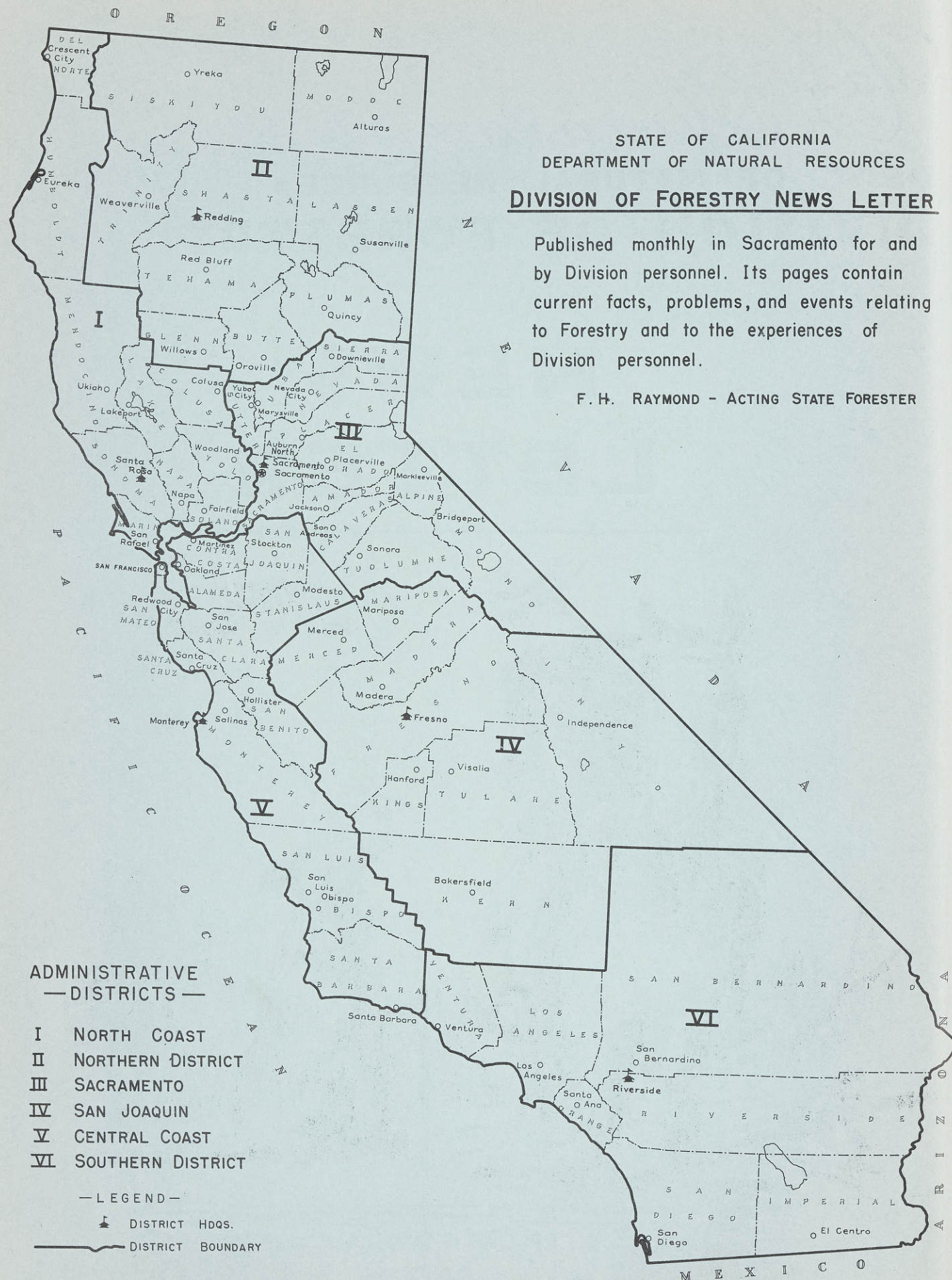
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

-MARCH-
1954
VOL. 13 NO. 3



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

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F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The lack of rainfall south of San Francisco and Sacramento and down to the Tehachapi Mountains until January 10 caused considerable concern since moisture from previous light showers were cancelled out by continued strong winds. Burning conditions in this area were becoming dangerous, and since fire control forces had been reduced to winter level, it appeared that we might need to strengthen the field forces to meet burning conditions which were approaching the dangerous point. However, on January 10 we had a light shower followed by heavier rains on the 15 and 16.

Southern California's fire season continued in effect until January 12 when an unpredicted storm blew in from the north bringing with it about one-half inch of rainfall and rather heavy snowfall in the higher mountains.

For the balance of the month storms have intermittently deposited rainfall ranging from very heavy rains on the north coast to slight traces in Southern California.

FIRE PREVENTION: Personnel of the Division attended the annual meeting of the California Conservation Council in Berkeley and participated in the program and discussions. At the annual banquet, the California Fire Prevention Committee presented Miss Pearl Chase with an award for outstanding public service.

Further plans for proposed fire prevention materials were developed, and the balance of the materials from the C.F.F.P. were received.

Proposals and copy for cutouts for cereal packages were presented to the Kellogg Company for consideration.

In District IV all Assistant Rangers were assigned to making door to door contacts aimed at compiling an inventory of all potential hazards and working out methods of abatement.

Educational programs, using motion pictures, slides, and talks continued. Request for motion pictures for use during Conservation Week indicates an active program for that week.

TIMBER PRODUCTION: More timber was harvested in this state during 1952 than in any previous year according to the Division of Forestry, who recently compiled the 1952 production data submitted by California timber operators in applying for 1953 registration. Some 5,057,036,000 board feet of timber was reported as cut in 1952 by 1,487 timber operators in comparison with 4,984,288,000 board feet by 1,228 operators in 1951. Over one billion feet of timber was cut in Humboldt County in 1952 with Mendocino and Plumas Counties following in second and third places respectively.

FOREST PRACTICE RULES: The Forest Practice Committee of the South Sierra Pine Forest District, as provided by Section 4948 of the Public Resources Code, held public hearings during the past month to consider revision of the Forest Practice Rules for that district. These hearings were held in Placerville on January 11, Truckee on January 12, Sonora on January 13, and Fresno on January 14. Timber owners and operators throughout the district were encouraged to attend these meetings and to express their views with respect to proposed changes in the rules. The Committee plans to meet on February 23 in Sacramento

to review the testimony presented at these hearings and statements subsequently received with respect to the proposed rules before drafting a proposed revision of the Forest Practice Rules for the approval of the State Board of Forestry.

STATE FORESTS: Timber sales activity on State Forests in California during 1953 surpasses all previous years. Over 17 million board feet of timber was sold during this past year from three of the State Forests managed by the Division in comparison with about 14 million during 1952. During 1953 some 17,690,000 feet of timber, 2,446 Christmas trees, and a small quantity of miscellaneous forest products were sold from State Forests bringing a return to the State of \$254,354. Since 1946 over \$600,000 has been received in the form of revenue from State Forests. During this period over 44 million board feet of timber and 30,042 Christmas trees have been harvested for commercial purposes.

BLISTER RUST CONTROL: Accomplishments during 1953 in blister rust control to protect valuable sugar pine stands on state and private lands in California are discussed in a recent report issued by the Blister Rust Control Unit of the U.S. Forest Service (formerly with the U.S. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine). This agency is responsible for control of this tree disease on State and private lands under a cooperative agreement with the Division of Forestry whose appropriations finance half the cost of control along with additional financial contribution by the federal government and timber owners. Control is established through eradication of wild gooseberry which is an alternate host to this disease.

Reappraisal of sugar pine lands needing protection has been going on since 1949. Incomplete appraisals show that the total area of state and private land contained at the present in control units needing and justifiable of control consist of about 240,000 acres. This indicates that a significant reduction in control acreage is imminent due to applying newly developed principles of local control and economic criteria determined by a cooperative study of sugar pine management. The results of this latter work, principally led by Dr. Henry Vaux, has been released in a bulletin recently by the University of California.

The State furnished some \$168,000 for the work and an additional amount of \$3,350 was supplied by timber owners. The federal government matched these funds for control work on state and private lands and supplied funds to treat similar federal lands in the state. The State made a further contribution through services performed by Youth Authority wards from the Dew Drop forestry spike camp in Amador County, equivalent to a value of \$12,260.

During 1953, some 18,530 acres of state and private land were given treatment. Another 6,071 acres were checked and met standards without working. Work done on contract accounted for 75% of this acreage, 14% was done by labor hired by the Blister Rust Control Section, and 11% by the Dew Drop crew. Average costs were on the order of \$6.00 per acre. Over 7,800 man days of labor were used and 1,439,000 gooseberry bushes eradicated. Chemical treatment was utilized on 125 acres, destroying 67,000 plants.

Altogether 181,482 acres, or about 76%, of the state and private sugar pine lands in control areas established as of present have received initial treatment. Some 56,358 acres were unworked and other previously treated acres require maintenance work.

There are 3,129 acres of land contained in the Latour and Mountain Home State Forests that qualify for control. Only 456 acres so far have been treated. Plans are underway to continue work at Latour by use of hired crews of the Blister Rust Control agency or its contractors. Control work is planned this coming season at Mountain Home through use of Department of Correction's inmates stationed on the forest.

Some of the potentially productive trends in the blister rust control program that are being given impetus are: (1) encouragement of owners of sugar pine lands to follow management practices that will promote sugar pine stocking and quality, (2) reappraisal of newly logged lands to determine economics of establishing control, (3) correlation of management activities with control in order that eradication can be timed more effectively, and (4) development of cheaper means of control.

SOIL SURVEY: The coming of the new year saw the reactivation of the soil survey in California. This project is a continuation of a survey of wild-land soils which was conducted from 1947 to 1952. A \$77,000 appropriation by the last session of the Legislature has made it possible to proceed with inventory of some eight million acres lying in the northern coast ranges and upper foothills of the west slope of the Sierras that are considered to be in urgent need of study. The work is being done under cooperative agreement between the Division, the University of California, and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, with the latter two agencies contracted to do the field and laboratory work. During the first two weeks of January a school was held in Berkeley for the purposes of training the field crews to be used, the timber industry and other public agencies having soil interests are also participating. Three men from the industry attended the training session and are now being used in survey work. The Division of Forestry also has two men in the project. Field work is now in progress in Glenn, Colusa, Tehama, and Humboldt Counties.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: A sale of 37 units which have been replaced by new equipment was held at Davis. Although a severe drop in price was expected because of the current used car market condition, the general level of bidding was above that which had been estimated.

Marmon-Herrington type #2 and 2 Special crew trucks were received from the build-up vendor. An additional 5 units will be delivered within a few days. Nine stakesides were also received. Bids were opened on six 4-man fire trucks and construction is expected to begin immediately. Requests for bids are being prepared for six more #2 Marmon-Herrington type #2 and 2 Special crew trucks. All vehicles except two have been purchased from the 53-54 F.Y. budget. Pilot type #4 is 90% complete and will be field reviewed early in February.

An 8-speed Hydromatic truck was tested for comparative performance in rough terrain. The unit showed considerable promise and flexibility of use—particularly at low speeds. The new four-wheel drive line of International Harvester was also previewed. Two models are presently in standard production. A test and possible purchase of one unit from current funds is being considered.

Tentative working plans are complete for an on-and-off highway trailer. It is intended that this unit will be used for water or back-fire fuel on both. It will be designed for towing behind a truck or bulldozer.

A new Homelite portable pump weighing only 29 pounds was tested and found satisfactory for use with slip-on units. A lighter weight Dacron hose

than any previously seen was previewed. Samples are being supplied by the manufacturer for test.

Three remaining tilt-bed medium transports are nearing completion at Foster Trailer Company. Delivery is expected within the next three weeks.

ENGINEERING: The Riverside District Headquarter's preliminary plans and cost estimates have been completed and will be presented at the next meeting of the Public Works Board for approval. Final design may then start for this headquarters.

A meeting was held with Warden Webb of Soledad Prison at the Coalinga site in Fresno County and plans approved for the construction of a 30-man winter spike camp at this location. This crew works at Mountain Home State Forest in the summer.

Work is progressing on the Siskiyou and Fresno County administrative maps.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SUPERVISOR JOHN ANSON FORD, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

WHEREAS, Mr. William S. Rosecrans has for over thirty years made valuable contributions of his energies and abilities to the cause of conservation of natural resources in Los Angeles County, the State of California, and the nation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rosecrans was one of the organizers of the Conservation Association of Los Angeles County and the Conservation Association of Southern California, and has served as President of both of these organizations and continues to serve as President of the latter, and, furthermore, has served as Chairman of the California State Board of Forestry since 1944, and during this time, under his leadership, the State Board has been a vital force in the cause of conservation and forestry and further, Mr. Rosecrans served as President of the American Forestry Association from 1941 to 1948, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rosecrans has served as President of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce and as Director and Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, and in many other ways has contributed to the welfare of his country and his fellow men; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is keenly aware of the great importance of conservation and, particularly so, in this community depending upon protection of its watersheds and the prevention of floods destructive of life and property;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, extend to Mr. William S. Rosecrans appreciation for his great contribution to this community as well as to the State and nation, as an outstanding leader in advancing the cause of conservation, and for his many other services to his community and his country.

RELEASED BY JOHN ANSON FORD, LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,
FEBRUARY 16, 1954.

HONOR CONSERVATION WORKER: "William S. Rosecrans, Los Angeles Banker and former president of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, today was honored by the Board of Supervisors for his many years' work in behalf of conserving the nation's natural resources. An engrossed scroll, signed by the five members of the board, was handed to Rosecrans.

"Organizations in which Rosecrans has been active include the Los Angeles County and Southern California Conservation Associations, the California State Board of Forestry, and the American Forestry Association."

LETTER TO MR. RAYMOND FROM E. H. JUNTUNEN, U.S. FOREST SERVICE

"After reviewing Ray Clar's article, "The Story Behind the Organized Forest Fire Suppression Crew", the first time we felt the article would be valuable to our forest personnel in putting across the same story. On the third reading and review by Staff we are convinced that it is just what the "Doctor ordered." It treats a long story in a factual, realistic and concise manner, with punch lines throughout. Our congratulations on a job, well done.

"If additional copies are available, we would appreciate receiving an additional fifteen copies so that distribution can be made to each Forest Supervisor for their information.

"This type of factual information we find is very helpful in keeping the public informed on current programs."

s/ E. H. Juntunen

ABOUT THE DIVISION

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR SERVICE AWARD PRESENTED

Ranger Miles H. Young of Lake County received the 25-Year Service Certificate and pin at a regular meeting of the Lake County CSEA Clear Lake Chapter #115 held at Kelseyville on March 5. The award was presented by Deputy State Forester C. W. Fairbank who reviewed Ranger Young's history with the Division and pointed out the growth made during this twenty-five year period.

C. W. Fairbank, Deputy State Forester

BIG MIGRATION IN SISKIYOU COUNTY

A few words from the State of Jefferson in the mountain fastnesses of Northern California.

We've been more than busy on our new Yreka Headquarters site. The massive work is fairly complete and only the frosting remains to be applied. We don't mind admitting that we'll undoubtedly have the nicest County Headquarters in the Division. Seven and one-quarter acres on a gradual, even slope/ three feet of black loam overlying an indefinite gravel bed; and the Siskiyou Mountains all around us.

Expansion of our office to more than twice its former size and expansion and renovation of the barracks is well along. The contractor has completed the bulk of his work with all buildings in place, curbs, driveways, and sidewalks complete. The big job remaining for the CDF is a long-term landscaping project.

There's one bit of moving not complete. The ranger residence has been sitting on wheels at the old site for six days waiting for the weather to clear. There's nothing like being a nomad, shifting from motel to friends and back to a motel, etc.

Suggestions to Dispatchers: Many of you have sealed your lookout maps in acetate. Like us, you have no doubt learned the value of this procedure, not only in keeping the map clean and in good condition, but also in allowing the lookout to note much temporary information on the map with a grease pencil. We have found this practice especially valuable in noting control burns, lightning strikes (easily and quickly recorded on the map during a storm), etc.

You have probably wished you could seal your dispatcher map in much the same way and for the same reasons: clean map, good condition, and the recording of temporary information of all types. Again, like us, you have probably found that there is a size limitation on the sealed acetate process: 28" square, an unhandy size for our dispatch maps (if you know differently, let us know!).

Many of you already know of another similar material that can be used on dispatch maps. It is not as good as the sealed acetate process but is thoroughly satisfactory and practicable. There is a transparent film called "Stikon-Film", distributed by Eugene Dietzgen, 521 Market Street, San Francisco, Catalog No. 158-M. The film comes in 20-yard rolls in 4", 8", 12", and 24" widths. The 24" x 20 yard roll is \$10.80 (enough to last a District for some time).

The film is in two layers which are separated as the film is applied to a map or other document. The thin acetate layer has a sticky cement side which, after application, sets solidly in about 6-8 hours. Within that time the film can be rubbed and worked smoothly over the map.

As already pointed out, the acetate layer provides a wonderful aide to record temporary information. We note going fires, lightning strikes, burning permits, range improvement burns, location of administrative personnel, etc. A box of kleenex is kept handy to the map to erase the grease pencil when the information becomes obsolete. Periodically we use glycerine to thoroughly clean the map.

If you are interested in the above aide, drop us a line. There are a few tricks to applying the film which we learned through trial and error. Application can be a chore if you don't know how to go about it. But the small effort expended is, to our thinking, well worth the values received and at small cost.

C. B. Phillips
State Forest Ranger

KINGS COUNTY

Initiating our new fire truck recently delivered to Kings County by the Coast Apparatus Company, Conservation Week was observed with special attention given to fire prevention in the home and in the school, with a demonstration by the truck on methods, nozzles, and approaches in combatting fire.

The truck was taken to approximately one-third of all the rural schools in the country where these demonstrations were conducted. Films and

lectures were also included in these programs by the Ranger and the Assistant Ranger. Through the courtesy of the Kings County Extension Service and the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, films relating to wild life and conservation of water and soil were greatly appreciated, these films being very fine in text and being filmed in our immediate vicinity.

The radio and press were invited to the crew quarters for lunch, crew style, where the activity of the crew was ably covered as they disbursed to their various assignments for Conservation Week on Wednesday, the day on which fire prevention was emphasized.

Summing up the accomplishment of the week, we visited nine schools, 2 Boy Scout Camps, one Girl Scout Troupe, three Service Clubs, one fraternal organization, and one volunteer firemen's open meeting. At the schools there were 2,125 total in attendance and 150 adults at the adult meetings. At this writing there is still one conservation program to be given on March 24. The arrangements for this program were made by a woman's garden club. It is anticipated that there will be in excess of 500 students present and several adults, but we are unable to give details other than that conservation is the theme of the program and the Ranger and Assistant Ranger are to be present.

Our thanks to a generous press and radio coverage.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

It is now the middle of March and everything is in full swing. The station they are building over at Kettleman City is going strong and we expect it to be finished by the first of July.

Joe Barros finally made it back down to Corcoran to build some kitchen cabinets in the living quarters. These will be appreciated in a big way.

Here at headquarters the old Von Glahn truck has been completed and painted and is almost ready to roll again. It sure looks good!

Our warehouse and storage rooms are being changed and cleaned. A set of shelves, moved in and painted, which will give us a chance to keep small supplies segregated.

We have been having lots of fun training the North Hanford Volunteers how to operate the new truck, so we are getting squared around for the fire season again, so we have been pretty busy.

We had the Hanford Sentinel and the Fresno Bee representatives out to lunch this month. Cody was the cook and we had a very good dinner!

Randle Watkins
Fire Truck Driver

While busying ourselves with construction and maintenance projects, and readying our equipment for the coming fire season, we wait in anxiety for our new truck, like a child for a new red wagon.

This will be the first factory built truck received by this county since 1941. All previous trucks have been built up by our own personnel. We feel that the Superior quality of this type of equipment will allow us to do a better job.

With our construction program nearing completion and adequate housing now at hand, we hope to be allowed one, and maybe two, new units each year. Now, see why all the anxiety?

Jean T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

FRESNO COUNTY

Fresno County merchants can help prevent forest fires without cost to them, and in fact be publicly cited and honored for their effort.

The shameful waste of natural resources caused by uncontrolled wild fires runs into millions of dollars which is difficult, if not impossible to recover. The majority of these fires are man-made through negligence and can be prevented.

Some of the many attractions in Fresno County are the three beautiful national parks and two great national forests. Millions of people visit these areas each year and merchandise sales to the individuals by Fresno merchants amounts to a tremendous volume of business.....forest fires destroy that business in addition to our valuable natural resources.

Visual reminders help prevent forest fires, and on these premises, a store window forest fire prevention display contest is being jointly sponsored by the Fresno County Sportsmen's Club and Fresno Chamber of Commerce. The project is expected to result in considerable advertising and publicity in addition to making people forest fire prevention conscious. It is hoped this is the beginning of an idea that will spread to other cities, counties, states.

Rules are simple (1) Any establishment having a sidewalk display store window may enter. (2) Contestants to write the Chamber of Commerce by April 15 or before giving name and address of participant. (3) Contestant to dress window as desired to accomplish the purpose intended.

A panel of judges will review the window displays during the week, May 1-7. This will be the opening of the trout season and should present unique window display ideas. Photographs will be taken and winners selected. The three contestants having the most effective display will be awarded special and appropriate wall plaques citing the participant for their contribution to the prevention of forest fires.

The California Division of Forestry, 1312 Blackstone, Fresno, and U.S. Forest Service will cooperate in this project and will have suitable posters available.

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Ranger Bruce Hufford of Mariposa County, veteran fire stomper oftentimes referred to as "The Sage of the Sierras", was honored by the residents of Mariposa County at a dinner held under the auspices of the local Lion's Club

on the evening of March 16. The evening was high lighted by the presentation to Bruce of his twenty-five year plaque by Deputy State Forester C. E. Metcalf. Hufford's acceptance of this plaque was a pleasant anticlimax to his receiving his twenty-five year pin at the recent District party, and was arranged between members of the local Lion's Club and Deputy Metcalf.

Bruce reminisced on his long career with both the U.S. Forest Service and the California Division of Forestry, pointing out that though he could only claim twenty-five years service, he had spent another seven years as Fire Warden and seasonal Ranger in the northern part of the state. He recalled that it was as a young logger that he first became interested in fire fighting and decided to make it a career and how, in the early days of forest land management, fires in the watershed areas were allowed to burn uncontrolled until they threatened virgin stands of timber.

Metcalf publicly complimented the people of Mariposa and Ranger Hufford in the great strides that they had made in the field of conservation education and fire prevention education in the past ten years. The evening was concluded appropriately with the showing of an educational film entitled "California, the Century of the Pacific." A film dwelling on California's growth during the past decade and the increasing demands made on its resources.

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

DID YOU KNOW

Copernicus Lookout, located in the Mt. Hamilton mountain range, is on the same mountain top as the famed Lick Observatory. We feel our Lookout observers and the astronomers have something in common; that is, the Lookout man observes his many acres of grazing land through 6 x 30 binoculars, while the staff of astronomers gaze into the sky and to parts unknown through the new 120" reflector.

This location overlooks the greater portion of the beautiful Santa Clara Valley. To the east is the area known as the San Antone. This area hosts thousands of deer hunters every year, and is the only country where the jackrabbits carry canteens with the inscription, "Courtesy of the California Division of Forestry."

E. R. Sam Garza
Forest Fire Dispatcher

DISTRICT VI

Winter arrived in the District at last. Whereas in January we had ten days of 80-plus weather, we only had nine in February ! Maybe we should be thankful for that one day of only 79 degrees weather since our fire load is down slightly from last year's record February 28 of 346 fires - normal 240. We have burned out several swaths amounting to 60, 210, 40, and 30 acres, and the prospects are for more of the same.

Just a year ago, we had a major radio survey to see why our repeaters were hashing each other up so much and what changes might improve the reception.

The changes are now starting and will include a new separate frequency for communications between the five District-County headquarters, the addition of a new frequency for Riverside County alone, and the elimination of some large repeaters by substituting 10-watt controllable repeaters. These and other lesser changes are expected to give us considerable radio improvement.

Fairs are again in vogue down here. While "Ike" was vacationing at Palm Springs, the Riverside County Date Festival took place at nearby Indio. The camels raced as usual, to retain the fair's distinction, and Smokey spoke as usual. He'll speak again soon at the National Orange Show in San Bernardino.

We are proud, and probably rightfully so, of the low acreage burned in 1953 despite a 50 percent increase in fire load. However, we recently learned that the acreage should have been even lower. A former, for a short time, CDF employee confessed starting the fires which burned 50 percent of Riverside County's 1953 acreage. Boy, how his fires did hurt too---at the times he selected. Guess his training on when and how fires burn hot was very good even though his period of training was short.

Our new CDC Camp at Morena in South eastern San Diego County is shaping up. Four steel buildings have been completed. Our Miramar Fire Control Station is even further along and summer occupancy is assured. Just an infant yet is the Witch Creek Fire Control Station, but its stature is now headed up. Things even look favorable for a state-owned District Headquarters in Riverside. True, all we have is five acres of land---the same five we've had for six years, except for shrinkage by encroachment of a new highway, but we now have reason to once again hope with expectancy. House-warming might be the subject in late '55. We'll let you know.

Douglas M. Glenn, Dispatcher

EL TORO AIR DROP

On Friday, March 5, representatives from the various fire services in Southern California witnessed an aerial drop of a water-foam solution from a Marine fighter plane at low altitude. The background for this experiment dates to October 4, 1953, during a campaign fire in the Pala area northeast of Escondido (Mowry Fire). While flying over the fire, a Major Warren Schroeder, USMCR, became interested in the idea that the fire could be controlled through high explosive bombing. His proposal was immediately presented to Ranger Joe Scherman of Orange County, who in turn advised Deputy Mace accordingly. Sometime afterwards a meeting was held by Mr. Mace, Ranger Scherman, and Major Schroeder. After discussing the possibilities of various types of bombing and aircraft fire-suppression activities, the Major indicated he intended to engineer an experiment with various means of dropping water from aircraft. This was to be in conjunction with routine training flights from the El Toro Base near Santa Ana.

After a number of experiments, the stage was set for a more conclusive test on March 5, 1954. The aircraft used was a Douglas AD-2, a single-engine, propeller-driven, fighter-type plane which has a reputation for its tremendous weight-carrying ability in proportion to its size and horsepower. A single 250-gallon tank, a surplus napalm bomb casing was attached to the bomb racks beneath the center of the fuselage just to the rear of the propeller. The tank measured approximately seven feet in length and was elliptical in shape

except each end had been cut off leaving a front opening of 10 inches and a rear opening of 14 inches in diameter. Each opening was covered with a round piece of glass plate approximately $\frac{3}{16}$ " in thickness. On the outside of each piece of glass, a metal strap containing an electrically-actuated detonator was attached; both front and rear detonators were fired through the plane's regular firing mechanism. A venturi arrangement in the form of a circular flange was affixed to the rear of the tank to create additional turbulence for the mixing of the foam solution with the water. Upon the explosion of each detonator, the glass plates would disintegrate and allow the force of the on-rushing air to blow the contents of the tank to the outside.

At approximately 3:45 p.m., the plane took off, being piloted by Major Schroeder. At a speed of approximately 140 knots and an elevation of approximately 35 feet above ground, the drop was made. The exact area covered by the foam was not easily discernible because of the growth of grass and weeds on the ground at that location. The general width of the foam pattern on the ground seemed to be from 50 to 60 feet, approximately 15 feet of which was concentrated sufficiently to give about 95% coverage with $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch of foam. This pattern was clearly visible on a standard bed sheet placed on the ground for this purpose. As for the length of the pattern, the above concentration did not extend beyond 100 yards; however, the falling foam solution was plainly visible for approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile or more after the original release of the solution.

All of the fire service representatives agreed that this type of drop has tremendous possibilities, particularly in view of the fact this AD-2 is capable of carrying two additional tanks of this size, raising the total gallonage to 750.

In some of the discussion which followed the experiment, it was suggested that thought be given to a different shape tank or possibly a front air scoop which would completely remove the liquid from the tank in a much shorter length of time. It was also suggested that future tests of this type be held over clear ground in order to facilitate the study of the pattern of the drop.

At the conclusion of the experiment, Deputy Mace expressed the appreciation of the fire services to the Commanding General of the El Toro Air Station for his interest and cooperation in conducting this experiment.

James K. Mace
Deputy State Forester

*State of
California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER



- APRIL -

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

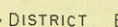
F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

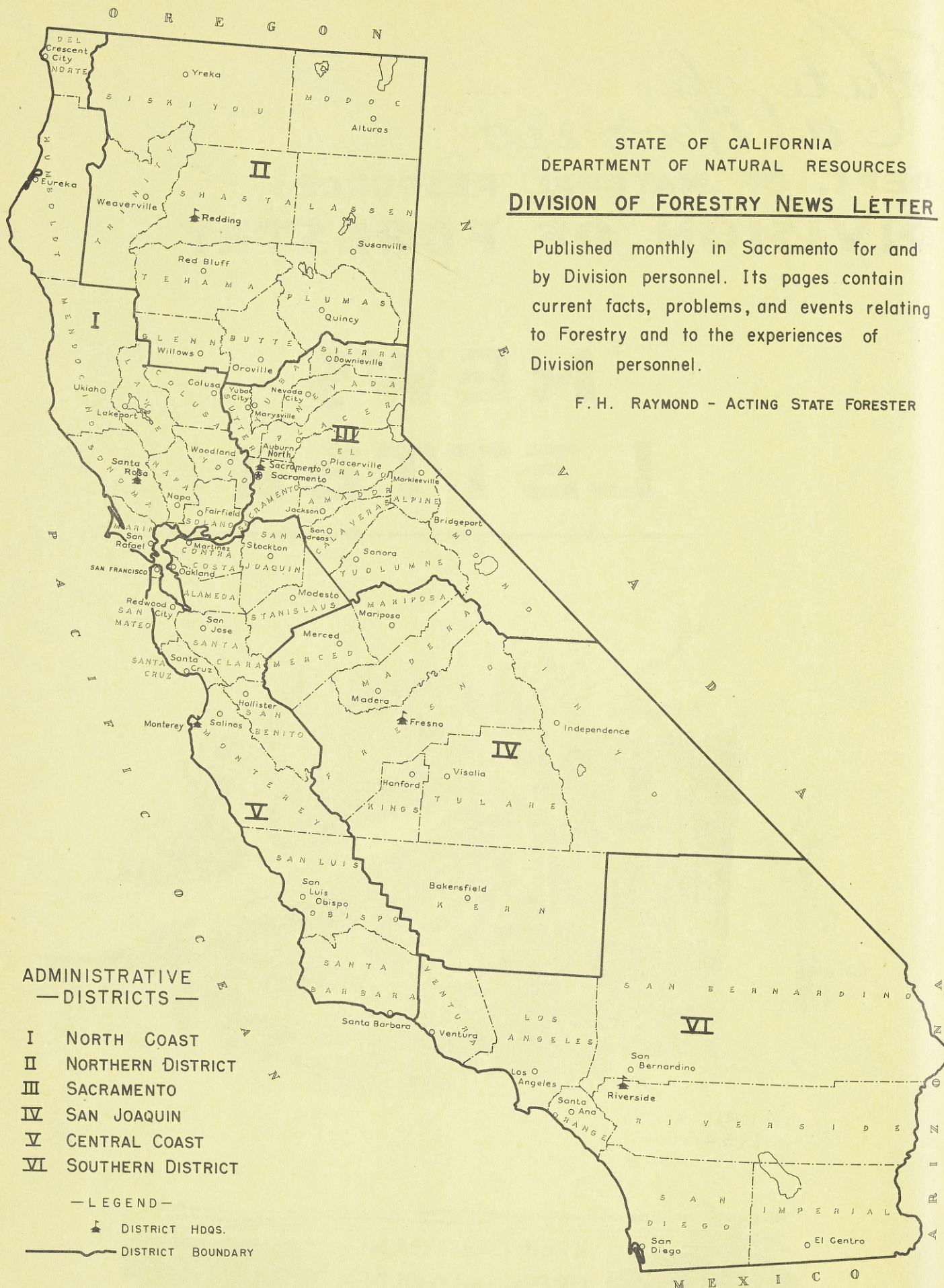
**ADMINISTRATIVE
—DISTRICTS—**

- I** NORTH COAST
- II** NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III** SACRAMENTO
- IV** SAN JOAQUIN
- V** CENTRAL COAST
- VI** SOUTHERN DISTRICT

—LEGEND—

 DISTRICT HDQS.

 DISTRICT BOUNDARY



FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Peculiar weather conditions were much in evidence throughout the state during the entire month of February. A few light rains occurred in the northern part of the state followed by snow in the higher elevations, fog in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys, wind and sunshine in the lower elevations, and extremely hot weather in Southern California.

On February 14 San Diego had a 200-acre forest fire near the Sunrise Highway in the eastern part of the county followed the next day by light showers.

The outlook is not too encouraging insofar as fire conditions are concerned. The last three days of the month brought north winds to the northern part of the state which have dried out the timber areas to the point where a serious fire could happen at any time. It is in the early fires that considerable timber damage has occurred. By our not having fire control forces for initial attack, fires gain considerable headway before we get control forces on them.

If the high temperatures continue in Southern California, we will be opening fire season there in March rather than the normal opening in April.

No storms are forecast by the Weather Bureau for at least the first week in March.

FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION: A meeting of all Division Fire Prevention Officers was held in Sacramento. Plans for new printed, television, motion picture, and other materials were discussed and follow-up action outlined. Cooperative programs with Boy Scouts of America, California Fire Prevention Committee, Keep California Green Committee, Redwood Region Conservation Council, Western Fair Association, California Conservation Council, and others were discussed and actions for 1954 developed. Fair exhibits, roadside signs, and other subjects were also programs for discussion and planning.

Three Districts started application of limited amounts of a new weed killer as experiments in roadside hazard reduction.

Field personnel continued to use motion picture films from the Division's film library in presenting programs to school and adult groups, and with very heavy requests for films for use during Conservation Week.

Fire prevention received special attention in the two training sessions in District V. District IV started an extensive survey of fire hazards in all counties and are making a permanent record for follow-up use.

FOREST PRACTICE: More timber operators registered in 1953 than in any previous year. Last year 1,487 operators registered in comparison with 1,232 in 1952.

In 1953 the number of companies and firms requiring forest practice inspection increased from 1,318 to 1,615 in 1953. The number of operators requiring forest practice inspection also increased from 2,067 to 2,432. Statistics compiled from 1953 registration show that these operators harvested some 5.057 billion board feet of timber in 1953.

Some 4,145 forest practice inspections were made throughout California in 1953 compared with 2,841 in 1952. Compliance on the basis of production remained unchanged at 83%.

The forest practice rules most commonly violated were those pertaining to hazard reduction and fire prevention and suppression practices. More specifically, the slash and snag disposal rules had the greatest number of violations followed by various rules in regard to fire prevention and suppression practices.

A great deal of good work was accomplished by the forest practice committees during 1953. Following public hearings late in 1952, the committees of the Redwood, North Sierra Pine, and Coast Range Pine and Fir Forest Districts adopted revisions of their rules and had them approved by the Board of Forestry in April and May of 1953.

The Forest Practice Committee for the South Sierra Pine Forest District met in North Sacramento with members of the lumber industry on February 23 to review proposed changes in the forest practice rules for that district in the light of testimony received at public hearings held in January. Revised rules developed by this committee will be presented to the State Board of Forestry for approval on March 12 in the hopes that the new rules can be put into operation during the coming logging season.

SERVICE FORESTRY: Accomplishments in the Service Forestry program during 1953 shows continued improvement over previous years. Seven field foresters have been employed in this activity. During the past year 709 forest land owners involving 133,264 acres were advised and given forest management assistance. Another 178 small forest product operators were also advised regarding management and forest practice. Four and a half million board feet of timber was marked for cutting on 3,627 acres. Some $4\frac{1}{2}$ million feet of timber was inventoried on 1,686 acres by owners after assistance by Service Foresters for management planning. Improved cutting practices on 110 ownerships took place through influence of Service Forester. In addition to the cutting of commercial timber, stand improvement work, pruning, etc., 95 acres of land was planted. Some 48.5 million board feet and \$40,975 worth of Christmas trees having a total stumpage value of over \$462,000 were harvested under improved cutting practices or for which advice was given through the service forestry program.

The sixth annual field school for practicing foresters sponsored by the School of Forestry of the University of California was held in Berkeley, February 1 - 6 and was well attended by public and private foresters. Professor Robert N. Colwell was in charge of the instruction on the use of aerial photographs in forestry. Seven representatives of the Division, including foresters and engineers, attended the training session devoted to instruction in the elements of photogrammetry, photographic interpretation, and specific methods of using aerial photographs in their daily work.

ENGINEERING: The Fresno County map is now in the process of being field checked and the map should be printed and distributed by the beginning of the fire season.

The west portion of Siskiyou County map is also completed and is now being field checked.

The Lake County map is being completely revised. This map will be used by the California Forest and Range Experiment Station in compiling a soil map similar to the soil map of Mendocino County.

Construction is progressing on schedule at Ukiah and Point Arena Fire Control Stations in Mendocino County and at Los Posados Fire Control Station in Napa County.

Materials are ordered for the new equipment building at District II headquarters at Redding in Shasta County.

Plans have been completed for a paint shop at Magalia C.D.C. Camp in Butte County.

The construction of the barracks extension at Sutter Hill in Amador County is completed except for the painting and some plumbing.

Work is progressing on the combination barracks and messhall building at Colfax Fire Control Station in Placer County and on the kitchen and messhall building at San Andreas in Calaveras County. These projects should be completed by the beginning of the fire season.

Plans are nearing completion for the C.D.C. spike camp and fire control station at Coalinga in Fresno County.

Construction on Morena C.D.C. camp in San Diego County is progressing satisfactorily and work has also been started on Nipoma Fire Control Station in San Luis Obispo County and on Witch Creek Fire Control Station in San Diego County.

AUTOMOTIVE: The following equipment was received at Davis: 1 - 1/2 ton pickup, 2 - 3/4 ton pickups, 10 - sedans, 1 - station wagon, and 5 - stakesides.

Three G.M.C. medium transports were completed by Foster Trailer Company in Los Angeles and delivered to Davis. One has been assigned to District II.

The final three Ford Marmon Herrington four-wheel drive crew trucks were completed by Superior Truck & Body in San Francisco and delivered to Davis.

Six G.M.C. chassis and a group one Pilot model, 500 gallon capacity, 4-man fire truck were delivered to Superior Truck in San Francisco for purpose of construction.

One F-250 Ford was delivered to Utility Body in Oakland where a special Mechanics body is being fabricated.

One Slip-on Pickup Pumper tank and pump unit was finished by the Division of Highways.

Plans have been partially completed for a 1,000 gallon slip-on tank for use on a dump truck with a small fire pump mounted at the rear end. A sprinkler boot attachment will permit dual purpose usage as a Fire Camp water supply or a sprinkler unit.

Pilot model crew truck #4 at Davis Shop was prepared for Field Test and inspection the first week in March. The balance of the time at Davis Shop follows:

Preparation of Administrative vehicles and crew trucks and transports for transfer to the field. Willys pickups were equipped for purpose of pulling house trailers. Six fire pumps were repaired.

Office staff and personnel activities follow: Routine Administrative affairs, District IV and V training, U. S. Forest Service Conference, Fire truck construction inspection, preparation of detail for bid on six Ford Marmon Herringtons (No. 2 and No. 2 Special models) to be opened March 8th, inspection of Fabco Holmes 4-wheel drive - 1-ton Chevrolet, preparation plans for Spring field test of medium transports and crew trucks.

THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION 1954 NOMINATION BLANK FOR CONSERVATION AWARDS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR SERVICE IN FOREST CONSERVATION

Among your acquaintances there are certain individuals who render outstanding service above and beyond the call of duty toward the conservation of our renewable resources -- forests, soil, water and wildlife. They may be people fighting tirelessly to foster a better understanding of the wise use of these resources; but regardless of their occupation, they are individuals who are conservationists at heart and go beyond self to enrich our way of life.

Each year The American Forestry Association, through its magazine, AMERICAN FORESTS, searches to find individuals who have enlightened public knowledge in handling renewable resources. The purpose of this program is to present to the world those who have made significant contributions to the protection of our heritage.

An Awards Committee of The American Forestry Association, representing a cross-section of conservation endeavor, will review and nominate candidates for consideration and approval by the Board of Directors of the Association. Their final selection will be based on the answers to the principal question of this nomination blank.

Individuals, organizations, educational institutions, industries, professions, civic organizations and others are invited to nominate candidates for these Awards. Five fields have been chosen in which awards MAY be given. They are: 1. Public Information, 2. Business and Industry, 3. Public Servants, 4. Education, 5. General Service. Nominations must be received no later than June 15, 1954.

These conservationists approved by the Board of Directors will be honored at the traditional annual banquet of The American Forestry Association held this year at Portland, Oregon, September 6. Awards to be given include a plaque and Life Membership in The American Forestry Association, designating them as outstanding leaders in their particular fields of endeavor.

List chronologically contributions and achievements of the nominee in the fields of forestry, soils, wildlife and water conservation that have contributed to the general welfare.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JUNE 15, 1954.

BOOK "THE CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE REGION".

The book, "The California Wildlife Region, by Vinson Brown, is available from the Naturegraph Company, Route 1 Box 190A, San Martin, California. The price is \$1.03.

The book is a simple introduction to the common animals and plants of the California Wildlife Region. Its main purpose is to show how to learn about animals and plants in relation to where they like to live. The California Wildlife Region covers most of the lowland and foothill areas of California except for the deserts and the northwest coast forest of redwoods and firs. Bordered on the northwest by humid forest of Oregonian Wildlife Region, on east by the Sierran Wildlife Region, on the southeast by the arid Mojave and Sonoran Deserts.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT II

By legislation enacted during the 1953 Session of the State Legislature, it has become mandatory that youths reaching the age of 16 years, never having possessed a California hunting license, will have to take a four hour course in firearm safety, sponsored jointly by the California Department of Fish and Game and the National Rifleman's Association. This is California's new Jr. Hunter Safety program. Qualified instructors must endorse the enrollee or reject him until more progress is made in his ability to handle firearms safely. The minimum of four hours may be expanded allowing the instructor a chance to do a better job, individually. This is a program that should pay off with long range benefit of reduction in hunting accidents, better public relations for the hunting public and better fire prevention.

A youth of 12 years with open mind will absorb rules of conduct to a good degree, knowing that he is being tested individually. Fire prevention should be a part of his basic instruction as well as good woods manners generally.

In the Butte areas of Chico and Paradise, this program is being initiated at the present time with strong backing of service clubs and public-interested citizens. The schools have endorsed the program and have offered to assist. Fire prevention and good woods manners will definitely be a part of the California Jr. Hunter Safety Program in this area.

H. G. McKeen
Assoc. Ranger

YUBA COUNTY

The meaning and intent of Conservation Week was literally brought "home" again this year in Yuba County, with most students in all the schools participating in essay and poster contests on the subject of conservation of our natural resources. The 18 winners were honored at a dinner at the Uriz Hotel in Marysville, their hosts being the Yuba County Conservation Council.

From all indications the acquisition of the new site for our Loma Rica Fire Control Station is in the final stages, and we are looking forward to commencing construction at an early date. We are hoping that in the next

edition of the News Letter we may announce actual ground-breaking.

The Yuba foothills have been somewhat hazy with cigar smoke recently - in fact, ever since March 18th when Ranger Jerry Reinecker's wife, Doris, presented him with a new daughter, Jean Elizabeth, 7 lbs 4 oz. Also on hand to greet the new arrival was her sister Carol and her beaming grandpa, Don Bennetts, of District III headquarters.

The month of March, with considerable unsettled weather, saw the winter's heaviest snowfall on Oregon Peak (1 foot). Probably through oversight, the radio technicians didn't ask to be taken up to the radio repeater during any of this period. With rain falling again the last days of the month we should be nearing the normal annual rainfall for this date.

Sickness struck down several of our personnel during March, including Assistant Ranger Al Munson who was hospitalized for a week. He is back on the job, we are glad to say. Another returnee is Assistant Ranger Al Stanley who is looking great after a sojourn in the hospital this winter.

The February vacation plans of Foreman and Mrs. Bill Shafer were altered, much to their surprise and pleasure. A few days after they had departed, his VFW Post selected Bill to be their delegate to a convention in Washington, D. C. They were located in Southern California by telephone and arrangements completed for an "all expenses paid" trip to our Nation's Capitol.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

DISTRICT VI

District VI's Carpenter, Hank Nelson, asks "Who says a car is worn out at 100,000 miles? There's no truth in that if it's a Chevrolet and you take care of it." Hank just tearfully parted with his '47 pickup at 100,000, running just as smooth as a straight edge on a flat surface according to Hank.

Your reporter, a Ford believer with a Mercury personal car, decided to print the above but to "get the facts--all the facts, Ma'am". So he contacted Norm Harris, our Fire Prevention Officer and Seeker of the Truth, who says if it's a Ford, you don't even have to take care of it and the State won't replace it at only 100,000. He has "irrefutable proof" in his '49 V-8 sedan, up to 110,000 fast miles and no replacement in sight yet. Norm says, "You don't even have to drive under 40 if it's a Ford like Hank did his Chevy. Guess that's why Hank's car still had the five original tires with a total of nine recappings. Norm can't match that but he does match the one valve grind with a ditto Ford situation and 10,000 more miles. Anyway you look at it, the records are good.

Not to be outdone though, our Construction Inspector, Louis Taurman, has a different twist. He just swapped his 164,000 mile '49 Ford in for a Ranch Wagon. True, it had its second motor, but neither motor had ever been touched and the second one was still close to its first two year average of 19 plus miles per gallon. And those weren't slow miles either. Louie had to reinforce the floorboards near the throttle!

Guess the best way to get miles is come to District VI where you don't get corrosive rain in your carburetor and where the weather allows year-round

fores and construction so one can drive fast and stay ahead of trouble. Truthfully, however, we must admit that other units at Headquarters have recently reached 100,00 or are close now but can't be called an "Old Smoothie".

Speaking of rain, we finally got a few storms to come south and we feel a little more optimistic now with a normal ten inches in the valleys and 15 to 30 higher up. Might not even get bonus pay in April this year!

Our office form stockroom reminds us now days of the Army joke about new paper reports. You've heard it I believe--goes something about the 2nd Lieutenant who jokingly started submitting a weekly report on the results of the various flypaper strips in the messhalls. Seems that Washington got so accustomed to filing them that when the other Army bases' report folders remained empty in a new fiscal year, word went out to "submit your flypaper reports".

Riverside County Board of Supervisors has decided to set up a group of 100 County prisoners in a field camp to carry out roadside hazard reduction, firebreaks and other watershed management practices. They will be closely tied in to Riverside County Forestry and be available for fire control work. We know this will be a great help as a similar program has been in effect in San Diego County for the last few years.

Douglas M. Glenn, Dispatcher

ARTICLE FROM ORANGE COUNTY NEWSPAPERS

The following article appeared in several of the Orange County newspapers, and reads as follows:

"They deserve credit and praise far in excess of my ability to express", Mrs. Berryman Green said of the Volunteer members of the Silverado Fire Department and Dr. Jim Jet, of Orange, after they took her husband, Dr. Berryman Green, to St. Joseph's Hospital following a heart attack Thursday. Dr. and Mrs. Berryman Green were walking through Modjeska Canyon about one and one-half miles from their home when he was stricken. A total of sixteen neighbors and firemen carried the stretcher through the Canyon, fording the knee-deep creek about eight times. Ass't. Ranger R. L. Custer, of the Orange Headquarters of the California State Division of Forestry, led the volunteer workers through the Canyon, saving the Doctor's life. The Doctor, who has his office and home in Laguna Beach, is now recovering from his harrowing experience; and Mrs. Berryman Green said, "When they say it is all in the line of duty, it is a most inadequate phrase and a great understatement".

J. A. Scherman
State Forest Ranger

State of
California

JUN 14 1954

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

-MAY-
1954
VOL. 13 NO. 5



-MARBY MILL-



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

**ADMINISTRATIVE
— DISTRICTS —**

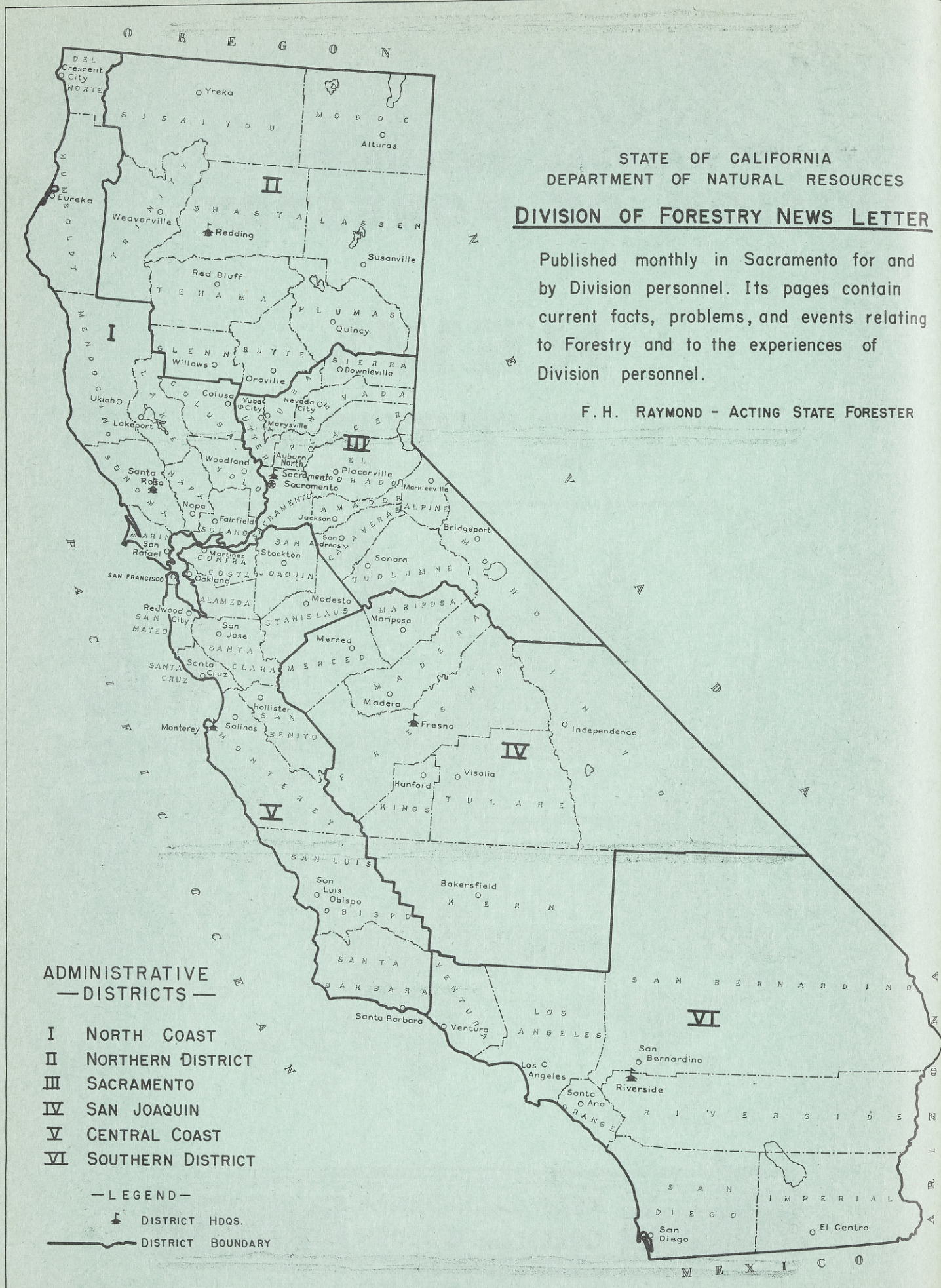
- I NORTH COAST
- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

— LEGEND —



DISTRICT HDQS.

— DISTRICT BOUNDARY



APRIL ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The month of April has been devoted principally to training schools for foremen, drivers, and assistant rangers in preparation of receiving and training seasonal personnel when they are hired after April 15 in the south and May 1 in the north.

Emphasis in training has been placed on operation of new four-wheel drive trucks that have recently been delivered, as well as relay pumping and long-hose lays.

District VI put on a very impressive demonstration of long-hose lays for fire control. This demonstration was attended by representatives from each of the other five districts, who, we are sure, came away with a fuller appreciation of the value of getting water on to fires by this method of hose laying.

Rains in Northern California during the last week in April were timely since fires were occurring in the timber areas; notably one of twenty-two (22) acres in Nevada County.

Southern California's fire season was opened on April 16 and crews started right to work on fire control. On April 22nd the Cleveland National Forest had a thirty (30) acre fire near the Pine Hill guard station.

Declared fire season requiring twenty-four hour standby in District IV appears evident about May 1st.

May 1st will see the opening of the fire season in the five northern districts who will welcome the opportunity to start their crews, and relieve the pressure on the winter foremen, who have been busy more or less all month with small fires.

From all appearances, employment conditions favor filling our crews with older men who appear willing to accept the fire fighter jobs and will probably stay throughout the season. Prospects for a better quality of foremen and drivers look good.

FOREST MANAGEMENT: Preparations for the 1954 timber sale on the Latour State Forest in Shasta County have been completed. Following legal advertisement sealed bids will be opened at 3:00 P.M., June 1, 1954, at Redding, for the purchase of some 1,781,000 board feet of mixed conifer timber from an area of about 110 acres. All the timber designated for cutting was marked by forest personnel last summer under a group selection type cutting system following generally the principal of the "Unit Area Control" system.

Last year some 377,180 board feet of pine and Douglas fir timber on the Ellen Pickett State Forest in Trinity County was offered for sale but no bids were received due to the decline of the fir market between the time of the appraisal and the date of the sale. This sale has been reappraised and is currently being advertised for sale on a competitive bid basis this year. Sealed bids are scheduled for opening at 3:00 P.M., May 25, 1954, at Redding.

Division personnel planted 3,000 ponderosa pine seedlings at Forest Ranch, 1,200 ponderosa pine at Paradise Demonstration Forest, 2,000 ponderosa

pine, 2,000 Jeffrey pine, and 500 Sierra redwood on Mt. Home State Forest. On Mt. Zion State Forest 1,600 ponderosa pine was planted for demonstration purposes. All the above trees were 2-0 root pruned stock from our State Forest Nurseries.

Control work on the Osborne Hill infestation of western pine beetle in Nevada County which was started in February has ceased. The control work was a cooperative operation between private land owners and the Division of Forestry. CDC inmates from the Iron Mine CDC camp were used to do much of the control work. Some 554 trees were treated before the insects emerged. The area will be kept under close scrutiny to check any new outbreaks.

A cooperative project between the Division of Forestry and the Division of Beaches and Parks has been initiated for the control of flathead wood borers which are attacking trees in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. It is estimated that there are 170 insect infested trees in need of treatment.

Seeding of the three branch nurseries has been completed. Seed was sown at Magalia to produce 1,920,000 trees, 1,199,000 at Ben Lomond, and 877,000 at Parlin Fork. The bulk of these trees will be available during the 1955-56 planting season. The Davis Nursery was not seeded this year as control of Nematodes is being undertaken. This control work is a two-year project. Hardwood stock usually grown at Davis was seeded at Ben Lomond.

It is estimated the planting stock available for the coming planting season will be 2,370,000 trees. The planting stock included 800,000 ponderosa pine, 300,000 Coast redwood, 260,000 Jeffrey pine, 220,000 sugar pine, 175,000 Douglas fir, 80,000 Sierra redwood, 5,000 white fir, and a substantial quantity of other coniferous and hardwood species.

FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION: Preparations for the California Fire Prevention Committee meetings in San Francisco on May 5 and in Los Angeles on May 7 were completed with written notices of those expecting to attend having been received. Those return notices indicate both meetings will be well attended.

Field personnel continued the use of films as supplements to other programs with youth and adult groups. Fair exhibits were prepared in several counties with much planning and preparation of portal exhibits for future use.

Arrangements were made for the preparation of a series of slides for television use. Script was prepared and invitations to bid submitted for the motion picture materials for 1954 use.

Preparation of copy for new posters, roadside signs, and leaflets progressed, and printing is expected to be completed for the opening of the season's campaign.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: During the month of April the following equipment was received, inspected, and accepted:

- 2 - Production Model #2 crew trucks.
- 6 - 250 B.P.M. Independent engine-driven fire pumps.

Numerous inspections were made at the two vendors' plants, who presently have contracts for the construction of fire and crew trucks from present fiscal year

funds. Anticipated delivery of all units now under construction is June 1.

Request for bids are currently out for the construction of nine Model #4 crew trucks and are to be opened the first week of May. This will complete our present year acquisition.

Plans and specifications were completed and contractual agreements are in process for construction of the following experimental units:

1. Portable hot food dispenser to slip in a 1/2 ton pickup for on the job feeding of fire crews.
2. Combination water and back-firing trailer to be towed either behind a crew truck or bulldozer.
3. Tow behind tilting trailer for transporting our small crawler tractor and fire plow now being tested under field conditions.

The hose coupling project at Iron Mine C.D.C. was put underway and the initial shipment of $1\frac{1}{2}$ " hose was completely coupled and tested. All pending suction hose on order was tested at the vendor's factory and shipment was authorized.

Portions of the order for 1" and $1\frac{1}{2}$ " spinal light weight were tested at the vendor's factory.

Plans are in process for the installation of water tanks and a small pump on a medium bulldozer for experiment and observation.

The initial inspection was made on the construction of Madera County schedule A fire truck.

Several meetings were attended and one of the engineers spent several days at the U. S. Forest Service Arcadia Development center viewing their tests now in progress.

A meeting was had with Product Engineers of Aero-Jet-General Corporation of Azusa who have agreed to produce for our approval a fibre glass canteen which is purported to be lighter, practically indestructible under normal use, and suitable for any fluid.

The Davis Shop repaired a number of fire pumps for immediate exchange with the field, completely overhauled a high-pressure pumping plant for test purposes, and started the overhaul of two heavy transports.

ENGINEERING: The location for the new C.D.C. camp in Humboldt County has now been decided on. The camp will be located just north of Dyerville.

District II Headquarters automotive building in Redding, Shasta County, has now been completed.

The combination barracks and messhall at Colfax Fire Control Station, Placer County, is completed and will be occupied this fire season.

Construction on the C.D.C. spike camp and fire control station at Coalinga, Fresno County, is progressing satisfactorily.

Construction has started on Shandon Fire Control Station in San Luis Obispo County. Included in the building program is a combination messhall-barracks-equipment building and a gas and oil shelter.

Construction is progressing according to schedule at Morena C.D.C. Camp in San Diego County. Phelan Fire Control Station in San Bernardino County and Miramar Fire Control Station in San Diego County are nearing completion and will be occupied this fire season.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

NEVADA COUNTY

The State Board of Forestry, on March 12, 1954, declared a zone of insect infestation existed in Nevada County. The zone of infestation encompassed an area of 36 sq. miles, generally south of Grass Valley. This area included the lower elevation stands of second growth Ponderosa pine, much of which is in Tree Farms.

The primary insect responsible was the Western Pine Beetle, with *Ips Confusus*. The infestation varied from two or three trees to as many as thirty or forty trees on a single acre.

An inmate crew from the Iron Mine C.D.C. camp, which consisted of sixteen men with C.D.F. foreman Maples, were assigned to the project with overall supervision under Associate Ranger Jim Hayes. Much work went into contacting the many landowners involved, and working out an agreement whereas the landowners would provide half the cost of the work, either in money, contributed labor, use of saddle horses in spotting, or use of equipment.

Spotting and marking of infested trees was done by C.D.F. men on foot, horseback, and a three-hour aerial recon, after which the C.D.C. crew fell all marked trees, and either peeled and burned the bark or in the cases of smaller trees, cut the tree into small chunks and burned the entire tree. The number of trees treated were 350 trees under 14" DBH and 204 trees over 14" DBH.

Valuable assistance was given by Dr. Hall and the field men of the Forest and Range Experiment Station, Berkeley.

Approximately 300 infested trees in the zone were not treated, as with the unseasonable warm weather we had in April the larva matured and left the trees ten days to two weeks before expected, so work was concluded for the present on April 15.

On December 1, 1953, Assistant Ranger Loren Hill returned to the Nevada County Administrative Staff after twenty-two months of service with the U.S. Air Force.

On April the 1st Assistant Ranger "Pete" Peterson was transferred from Nevada County to Calaveras County. Pete and family will be missed by all, but Calaveras County can feel themselves fortunate to gain an Assistant such as Pete.

Another addition to the Nevada County personnel is a baby in the

Eddie Berger family. Eddie, our F.E.O., feels pretty proud of his little girl, Janet, born on March 23.

Jack Odgers, Forestry Trainee

KINGS COUNTY

After an "Unusual" spell of hot weather we are enjoying a cool refresher, which will cool off the Foxtail for a few days.

Activity in Kings County seems centered around burning off Foxtail, of which we have an unusual abundance.

The Assistant Ranger, Couste, is concerned with his up and downs trying to transplant a few Peacocks from Mooney's Grove Park to Burris Park. Mr. Ross the Superintendent at Mooney's Grove, assisted with the catch and advised on the release of the birds, but the birds do not react according to perscription.

The wonderful financial and social results of the benefit dance which was given by Forestry & Fire Control was beyond the wildest dreams of those in charge. All persons who contributed in any way are hereby given our sincere thanks and appreciation. A good time was had by all!

During the month of May a great deal of time has been spent on final preparations in all stations for the coming fire season. At last all trucks and tools needing painting and repairing has been completed.

Randle Watkins, one of the drivers at headquarters is on the sick list having a bad time with hay fever.

Harvest season is here again and it is very common to see a string of harvesters, like tin soldiers, marching down our county roads.

The secretary in the office is wondering where all of the pet names for fire tools come from! (Inventory time!)

A new group of volunteers is being organized at Kit Karson Fire Station to assist in fire control work in the area adjacent to the station.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

SANTA CIARA COUNTY

Due to the recent declaration of the 1954 fire season, we are now busy with hiring of new personnel and opening of our outlying stations and lookouts. However, since we have had late rains this year, we are starting out at a little slower pace than we did last year. By the first of June we expect to have most of our stations open with a few exceptions.

We welcome back to duty all of our faithful lookouts who return every fire season to take over their respective posts and scan the valleys and brushy

canyons with just one objective in mind - SMOKE. Once they spot this, they report it to the Dispatcher and then the hard-hitting fire fighting crews take over. These lookouts are Dana Reddish, William Adams, and Floyd Birdsall. We also have two transfers from District III - Clifford McLaughlin and Cyrus V. Waite, both "old-timers."

Others we welcome back are Bill Jurian, transfer from Monterey County, "Pat" Patterson, transfer from San Benito County, and Richard Tucker, who's been taking it easy this past winter.

We also have a new replacement in our administrative staff. Roscoe "Rocky" Savage has taken over the Associate Ranger duties of Gervice Nash, who in turn has been transferred to Monterey District Office. We all welcome Rocky and his wife to Santa Clara County and want them to know that we will do our best to make them happy in their new home and surroundings.

On April 10, 1954, a farewell party was given in honor of Gervice Nash, who has left the Santa Clara County prune pickers and joined the Monterey District Office staff. Gervice was presented with a pen and ink desk set made out of redwood burl taken from the redwoods of the Santa Cruz Mountains. We all deeply regret his loss, but we know that we can always count on him as a true and faithful friend. The best of luck to him, his wife, Jacky, and little Mike in their new home in Monterey.

A surprise (??) housewarming was given the same evening to George and Mary Ryder. "Coffee every morning" now with their gift of a beautiful 8-cup automatic Coffeemaster. Their new home is located in Gilroy on El Toro Way.

We also lost one of our foremen, Richard Chadwell, who was promoted to Assistant Ranger and accepted a position in San Luis Obispo County.

On April 12, 1954, we adopted the constitution and by-laws for the formation of the Santa Clara County Employees' Welfare Fund. The following officers were elected: President, Jack Skeels; Vice President, George Ryder; Secretary-Treasurer, Dorothy Magioncalda; 5 Directors, Frank Weatherford, E. R. "Sam" Garza, Eugene Tarp, James D. Rasmussen, and James W. Reed.

We've got a champion golfer at hand! Associate Ranger Frank Weatherford surprised us by receiving a trophy for winning low net in the Turlock Invitational Medal Play Golf Tournament in March. In April he again got out his clubs and won the Medalist trophy in the Patterson City Championship Golf Tournament. He also won the championship flight trophy on April 25. Now that fire season is here, Frank's putting his golf clubs away for awhile, but is looking forward to entering the State Tournament this fall at Pebble Beach. God luck, Frank.

Seems that Cupid is taking over and converting some of our local bachelors into getting married. Bruce Franks was the first to get married on April 3. Next was Dick Cronin, who tied the knot on May 8. Ken Johnson and George Newton are waiting a little longer, but they're next on the list. George Newton thinks it will be some time in August--he's just keeping his fingers crossed that we don't have a campaign fire along that time! Congratulations, fellows.

News from one of our employees now on military leave: Former Driver Dennis Welch reports he is now PFC stationed in Germany with the U. S. Army.

News from Warren Shaw indicate he will be returning some time in November.

Dorothy Magioncalda
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

DISTRICT VI

This District, again in fire season as of May 1 after having gone off only last mid-January, held its District Fire School at our San Diego County Ramona Station on April 21 and 22. As a little nightcap for the many dignitaries from up north, we "arranged" a 35-acre brush-oak-coniferous fire in the Pine Hills Lodge section near Julian. The dignitaries are well known as Len Chatten, Luther Gordon, Floyd Waklee, Jim Glenn, Ross Dunwoody, Howard Bromwell, Harry McKeen, Ray Higgins, Jack Kessler, John Tomblin, "Jake" Jacobson, George Phibbs, Jack Hanson, "Nick" Nicholson, Bill Mann, Steve Nash-Bouldin, and Harry McCauly.

It is reported by our spies that, as the dignitaries came out of the last session and climbed in their cars, they noticed the pretty good head going up to the east, checked the date on their Automotive Record and said, "This is April, must be a water spout," and headed north.

Ostensibly, the piece de resistance which attracted them down was the new hose lay trailer and its demonstration but actually, the F.E.O. panel almost stole the show. The crunching of bones was plainly audible as the operators fired their brickbats at some people who point toward an 80% slope and say, "We flew it this morning and it's safe. Run a line parallel 100 feet below the crest after the moon goes down. Here's a headlamp. Tie it on the radiator. Oh yes, we forgot to hold that newest fire fighter to be your swamper, but you won't need him anyway in that terrain."

Regarding the hose lay trailer, it is a two-wheel trailer unit grossing 3,000 pounds. It carries 2,000 feet of one-inch hose and 3,000 feet of one and one-half inch hose. Special light-weight pack boards have been developed by Assistant Ranger Compton. The trailer carries its own pump and Handy-Billie, several canvas tanks, all fittings, tips, etc., and can work alone or with another pumping unit. It is mainly intended to keep from tying up as many as half dozen fire trucks, formerly used to get equipment for hose lays. It can be used on the head of a fire, the flanks or for patrol. In all these tasks, it has demonstrated itself as a good additional tool.

A leak was almost sprung once in the hose when a "northerner" remarked, "You can't imagine how much more water we require for a timber fire", but this near rupture was averted by another "northerner" saying, "And you can't imagine how much more water you have up there."

Recently, the District Office asked our Counties, lately lax in supplying News Letter articles, to unlimber their right arms. The following speaks for itself.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

LETTER TO RANGER SCHERMAN - ORANGE COUNTY

"When I was in Chief Alderson's Office last week, he showed me a copy of your Junior Fire Ranger Manual entitled "You Against Fire." He told me that in his opinion it was the finest thing of its kind that was ever published. He gave me the copy, and I brought it home, have read it, and must agree with John that it is a fine manual. I have never seen anything better and am sure that it must be doing great good.

"A lot of work has been put into this publication, and I congratulate you and all those who helped you in the work. The children in the schools who use this book are bound to be impressed, and they will not soon forget the lessons they have learned.

"Again my congratulations and highest commendation for the fine work you are doing.

"With best wishes, I am,

s/ Jay W. Stevens, Chairman Fire
Prevention Committee
International Association of Fire Chiefs"

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

The general public relations factors of good business are no doubt self apparent and are, of course, emphasized by Fire Prevention as a phase of California Division of Forestry's service to the public. Perhaps, the following will in a small way point out and help to emphasize public relations fire prevention as an integral part of the Driver or Foreman's work load when in charge of a County unit station.

On Monday evening, March 22, 1954, the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 35, Devore, California, at a general meeting presented the Devore Fire Control Station an Advanced Scouting Manual as a token of appreciation for past and present services. Driver William Tripp received this manual of appreciation on behalf of Driver Richard Barrows and Driver Ernest Wasley who are presently in the armed forces and formerly were assigned to the Devore Fire Control Station. These three fellows have assisted the Scouts as merit badge counselors, interested both scouts and non scouts in the care and study of the experimental tree plots at the Devore Fire Control Station, basic fire control training, and other things pertaining to conservation. They also assisted in the Cajon School (Devore) PTA with Christmas programs - Santa Claus to school in a fire truck, etc.

The PTA and Grange, as well as numerous individual citizens, have commended these CDF drivers for their work with the young people and it appears to have affected fire occurrence in the Devore Heights area, as well as the general Division relations with the community.

The 1954 National Orange Show again saw the Conservation-Fire Protection Agencies cooperating in presenting a combined exhibit. The City Fire Departments, County Fire Protection Districts, California Department of Fish and Game, U. S. Forest Service, Civil Defense, California Division of Forestry, together with private enterprise, united in this activity to present another

successful demonstration of mutual-aid for public information.

A general plan of the exhibit consisted of a booth 12 x 26 feet, a field display of fire trucks, old hose carts, both hand and horse drawn, wild fowl and deer pens and a modified fire camp which was somewhat off-set by inclement weather. Publicity for the exhibit was handled through regular Orange Show channels.

A calculated estimate of 13,000 persons viewed the exhibit in eleven days. The combined front presented by the agencies in this fire prevention effort received favorable editorial comment and the departmental chief officers are considering tentative plans for 1955.

The 1954 Spring Forest Fire Training School in San Bernardino County will be joint effort by the California Division of Forestry and the San Bernardino National Forest. Attendance at this school will be personnel from County Fire Districts, City Fire Departments, Military Cooperators, U. S. Forest Service personnel, and California Division of Forestry personnel. The objective in this procedure is to provide a common ground of training for large fire management. As in the recent past, the school will be conducted at the former CCC Camp site in City Creek, which is presently a U. S. Forest Service Fire Control Station.

Hats off to our neighbors, Riverside County for their Driver Training programming in the interest of safety. San Bernardino County, through cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service facilities and personnel at the Arcadia warehouse, is scheduling similar training during June. This training will no doubt be made irrespective of civil service designations.

W. W. Skinner, State Forest Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The weather is warming up again and some of the Forestry people in San Diego County who have been hoarding their money during the rainy season are taking their annual vacations in interesting sounding places.

Phyllis Jean Haas, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk in the La Mesa Office, is taking a flying vacation trip to Hawaii. We expect her to give an authentic version of the native dance, complete with grass skirt and other necessary equipment, on her return.

Emmett Donohue, ASFR, from Red Mountain, is going to colorful Colorado for three weeks the first of May. Guess ER wants to climb some of the tall hills in that country to get his legs in shape for the coming season. Sort of a spring training schedule for Forest Rangers, south of Tehachapi style.

F. M. Anderson, ASFR, has returned to work from sick leave and is in the office at La Mesa. Andy says he is glad to be in harness again. Sure was a long vacation with no beach time.

Jim Fenlon played host to some of the northern brass during the District VI training session at Ramona on April 21 and 22. Jim and his boys gave a fine explanation and demonstration of extended hose lay techniques which should prove very effective during the coming fire season. Associate Jack Burke acquainted the group with the aims and developments of the fire research program "Operation Firestop." Ranger Holland led the panel discussion on Bulldozer Fire Operations;

Ranger Scherman held class on Urban Growth in Brushland Areas; and Assistant Ranger Ulrey spoke on multiple use of fire trucks. A lot of useful information was spread around. The fellows fought a lot of the fires from previous seasons and old friendships were renewed.

ASFR Elmer Chambers from Riverside County has been trying to poach yellowtail in San Diego waters. So far, those sneaky fish are safe and it looks like Elmer will have to give his gear away again this year. Elmer's appearance on the boats means no fish. Is that \$3.00 or #4.00 a pound those overgrown mackerel are costing now Elmer? (P.S. For the rest of the story, see Riverside's account - Editor.)

F. M. Anderson
Assistant State Forest Ranger

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Prospective fire fighters were added to the County's family roster when baby sons were born to Foreman and Mrs. Richard Bolster and to Driver and Mrs. Robert Caplinger. The best of luck to the new generation and a shot of "No-Doze" for the new fathers.

Construction is about 70% complete on our Poppet Flats Road project. You know what a road project is. That's where the boys thrashing around in the brushy hills in mud and snow wish they could trade places with the boys down in the office, who in turn are wishing they could get out on the job and lose some table muscle. The road is open to vehicle traffic from end to end and crews are now finishing up the bad places. In an unofficial opening ceremony T Men and Sheriff's officers used part of the new road to stage a raid on a local mountain enterprise that specializes in Mountain Dew.

With the opening of trout season close at hand many off duty man hours are being devoted to a serious problem. How to reserve a rock along a stream or lake for opening day. Last year's opening our local trout streams and lakes gave the appearance of a wildly gesticulating tubular glass and bamboo thicket. With our new cover of heavy grass and annuals still green we don't expect too heavy a fire occurrence from this source. Speaking of the Isaak Walton Pastime -- Assistant Ranger Chambers and Foreman Pfeifer returned from a deep sea fishing trip with a full limit of barracuda. These limits were paled by Pfeifer's catching a 31 - 3/4 lb. yellow tail which earned him the boat's jackpot and his picture in Sportsman's News as having caught the first yellow tail of the season out of Oceanside landing.

We wish to welcome to Riverside County's staff two members - Mr. William (Bud) Brownlee, Assistant Ranger who returned to the Division from educational leave of absence. Bud formerly worked in Mariposa County. Also Mrs. Melba Golden, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, who is new to California and to the Division. Both, we hope, will be very happy in their new jobs.

Raymond H. Banks
Associate State Forest Ranger

MORE FROM RIVERSIDE COUNTY

On April 19 and 20 Riverside County conducted the third session of two-day defensive driver's training school program for all personnel operating CDF equipment in the county. Due to that fact that it is impossible to bring in all the men at one time necessitates a series of courses, the first of which took place March 18 and 19 at Perris Headquarters.

There was a two-day classroom session of the three-day course which we have condensed into one which is based on a series of lectures, films, and class discussion on defensive driving and vehicle operation. The second day, we spent outdoors driving equipment usually of the type that a man normally drives. The students go through a series of skill tests which include parallel parking, stopping smoothly at 20 mpr in 40' through a restricted space, driving through a close quarter course both forward and backward, and bringing the vehicle to an immediate stop with the aid of a detonator to determine reaction and skid distance. The final test is a 45-minute drive around a town in actual traffic conditions on a predetermined course. The instructor, Simon Legree that he must be, dutifully docks the man even for the most minor and insignificant traffic error that he might have committed.

The response of the men to this course has been splendid and each and everyone of us have found that we aren't quite as good drivers as we thought we were. Our aim is twofold; one, to reduce accidents and property damage mishaps, and second, to obtain a 25% reduction in vehicle operation and maintenance cost.

Raymond H. Banks
Associate State Forest Ranger

LETTER FROM COUNTY TREASURER, SHERMAN H. WHITNAH TO RANGER TRUMAN HOLLAND- Riverside

"I live in the University Knolls District of Riverside, where there are about sixteen homes. Since I moved here, about four years ago, we have always wondered what would happen in case of a fire. The questions were: would we have adequate water, would the Forestry Department arrive in time, would the men be efficient, etc.

Last week, on April 21, 1954, my garage and workshop caught on fire. It was first noticed about 8:35 A.M. My wife and I were both away. The neighbors called the Highgrove Station, and other places. I received word of the fire about 8:45 at my office, and arrive home about 8:55. I found at least three fire trucks there from Highgrove, Sunnymead, and West Riverside, and about six men on the job, with the fire well under control. The men were: LeRoy Gren, Highgrove; David Westover, Highgrove; Don Davis, Sunnymead; Ken King, West Riverside; and James Ganes, Perris.

I think at least five men stayed on the job until the fire was completely out, at about 3:00 P.M. or later. They did an excellent job all the way, not only in controlling the fire, but in controlling the water, as well. The garage and workshop are tied to the house by a narrow breezeway, and the fire threatened the whole house. I am sure there was not more than a bucket of water in the house, and the damage there was negligible, even though the garage and shop were completely consumed.

"Mrs. Whitnah and I want you to know that we appreciate the fine job the men did. We shall always have kind and friendly feeling toward you and the Forestry men who do the tremendous, and many times, thankless job of fighting our fires.

s/ S. H. Whitnah"

TO DISTRICT VI: Thanks for your excellent contribution to the News Letter. Here's hoping that your efforts will stimulate our other Districts.

State of
California

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

— JUNE —
1954
VOL. 13 No. 6



— CORDON —

— Bishop Pass —



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER



Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

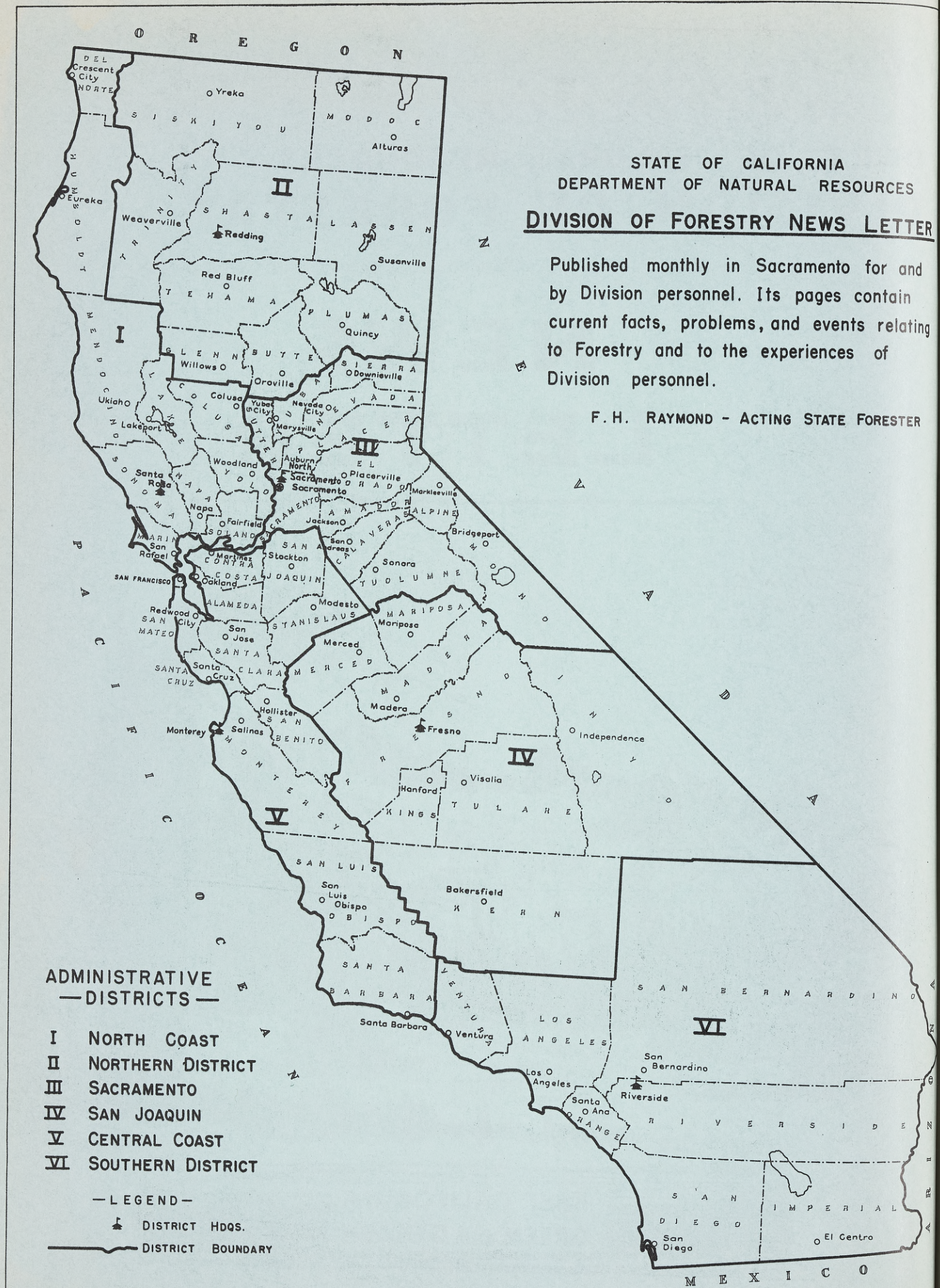
F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

**ADMINISTRATIVE
— DISTRICTS —**

- I NORTH COAST
- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

— LEGEND —

-  DISTRICT HDQS.
-  DISTRICT BOUNDARY



MAY ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The declared fire season for Districts I and III was put into effect by the State Forester on June 1. Declared fire season becomes effective when fire conditions require crews to be on duty twenty-four hours per day. All Districts are now on twenty-four hour duty.

The Fire Record to date compared to the last five years is as follows:

NUMBER OF FIRES JANUARY 1 to MAY 20, 1954

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
199	146	153	83	231	100

ACRES BURNED JANUARY 1 to MAY 20, 1954

Timber	476	154	773	25	477	256
Woodland	-	5	-	-	26	107
Brush	1,213	528	1,054	268	1,399	431
Grass	163	219	299	50	528	54
Hay-grain	-	28	4	-	12	1
Total	1,852	929	2,130	343	2,442	849

FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION: Meetings of the California Fire Prevention Committee on May 5 in San Francisco and on May 7 in Los Angeles, opened the forest fire prevention season. Both meetings were well attended and impressive programs presented by public supporters of the program.

As a direct result of the meeting in Los Angeles, one-half million leaflets were prepared and delivered to the County Superintendent of Schools in eight southern counties. Two thousand cover letters, including suggested uses of the leaflet were included. The letters to be distributed to teachers and the leaflets to a school child from each home.

The Western Pacific Railroad Company, again assigned Mr. E. L. McCann, Special Agent to work with all railroads on a fire prevention program. This program has the support of the Southern Pacific and other railroad companies.

Orders for available informational materials have been heavy since the meetings with many new cooperators showing active interest.

Contracts were entered into for the production of motion picture trailers and featurettes for use on television and in motion picture theaters.

Roadside hazard reduction progressed in all Districts.

Programs with adults and children continued with heavy use of motion pictures from the central library.

FOREST MANAGEMENT: Amended Forest Practice Rules for the South Sierra Pine Forest District were approved by the State Board of Forestry at a regular meeting held in Mariposa on May 14, 1954. The amended rules were filed with the Secretary of State on May 17, 1954, and made effective on that date. These rules

were amended after holding public hearings throughout the forest district and approved by the Board of Forestry following publication of said amended rules as required by law.

New Forest Practice Rules are now in effect in all forest districts within California. The forest practice committees of the Redwood, Coast Range Pine & Fir, and North Sierra Pine Forest Districts each strengthened the rules for their districts last year.

The State Board of Forestry on May 14 approved an extension of the San Jacinto Zone of Forest Insect Investation to include Garner and Hemet Valley areas in Riverside County. Jeffrey pine trees in these additional areas are being attacked predominately by Flathead borers. The contemplated control of this insect will be one of the first attempts to control the Flathead borer. It is estimated that there are approximately 300 infested trees. The new addition increases the area of the zone from 37,000 to approximately 50,000 acres.

The Division of Forestry in cooperation with the Division of Beaches and Parks completed a forest insect control project on Cuyamaca State Park. There were 203 trees treated. Agreements are being formulated for conducting other cooperative insect control projects at Lake Arrowhead, Crestline, and San Jacinto.

The only bidder on the Ellen Pickett State Forest timber sale May 25 was Troy Powell, Atlasta Ranch & Logging Enterprises. He bid \$23.00 per thousand board feet for pine and \$5.00 for Douglas fir. This sale is on a tree measurement basis and involves 377,180 board feet of standing timber for a sum of \$5,584.54.

ENGINEERING: Ukiah F.C.S. in Mendocino County is ready for occupancy. The new building consists of a combination barracks and messhall and an equipment shed.

The combination barracks and messhall at Los Posados F.C.S. in Napa County is also ready for occupancy.

The equipment shelters at Forest Ranch F.C.S. and Jarbo Gap F.C.S. in Butte County and at Paskenta F.C.S. in Tehama County are ready for summer storage.

The kitchen and messhall at San Andreas F.C.S. in Calaveras County has also been completed.

Work is progressing satisfactorily on the Coalinga F.C.S. and on the C.D.C. spike camp which also is located at the fire control station.

Work on Nipomo and Shandon F.C.S. in San Luis Obispo County and on Lockwood F.C.S. in Monterey County is progressing satisfactorily.

The Miramar F.C.S. in San Diego County is completed and ready for occupancy.

Morena C.D.C. Camp in San Diego County is approximately fifty per cent completed.

TPL GRANTS LAND LEASE FOR FORESTRY COURSE

The Pacific Lumber Company, Scotia, in a move to encourage forestry instruction of the highest and most useful quality, has signed a lease with the Fortuna Union High School, granting the school a 20-acre working area for their forestry field work.

The lease covers 10 acres of selectively cut land, six acres of old-growth timber, plus an additional four acres of old second growth. Timber cruising, scaling, line running and other operations can be carried out on the old-growth area, while growth studies can be conducted on the selectively cut lands.

The lease expires on December 31, 1955. However, the company says it plans to renew the lease for as long as the school desires to use the area. Technical assistance has been offered by the company and areas have been selected on the basis of accessibility to students and practicability for field instruction.

The Pacific Lumber Company lease to the Fortuna school is in line with industry policy, prompted through work of the Redwood Region Conservation Council, to assist forestry students in gaining the knowledge and first-hand experience needed by tomorrow's lumbermen. At a recent meeting of the Educational Subcommittee of RRCC, Edwin W. Pierson, instructor of forestry and lumber at Humboldt State College, said that a demonstration forest for field work is just as necessary to a forestry course as a laboratory is to the teaching of chemistry.

Press Release - RRCC
June 23, 1954

ROUNDTABLE

New developments in forest fire prevention, detection, and suppression were discussed at the third annual Forest Fire Roundtable held at Benbow Inn, June 12, under the sponsorship of the Redwood Region Conservation Council. The Roundtable is sponsored annually by the Council to provide discussion of common fire problems among industry, state, and federal foresters and fire fighting personnel.

Several timber operators in the Redwood Creek area northeast of Arcata have formed an informal cooperative fire fighting agreement, according to Larry Marshall, Dolly Varden Lumber Company logging manager, Arcata. Timber operators in the area exchange lists of fire fighting equipment and have an understanding to pool men and equipment in case of fire in their common area. Last year, Marshall said, the agreement had a chance to prove itself when a hot fire started on one company's land on a Sunday afternoon and was brought under control the next day through the combined efforts of several different neighboring company woods fire crews.

Press Release - RRCC
June 17, 1954

ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT IV

The Division is happy to welcome Forest Fire Fighter Foreman Bruce Morrow back to his old berth at Los Banos after having served his stretch with the U.S. Army. Bruce started with the Division of Forestry as a Forest Fire Fighter in June, 1949, and has grown up with us. He was appointed as Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in 1951, the same year that he married Miss Shirley Milbrook of Fresno....which incidentally, will always be remembered in Fresno annuals as one of the hottest weddings ever held in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. One of the attendants carelessly started fire to the bride's veil with a candle just as she started to walk to the altar. Needless to say, we predict a future for Bruce with the California Division of Forestry.

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

MONTEREY COUNTY

Monterey County has been gifted with a few pieces of equipment in the last couple of months. We received a small transport and an AC HD-5 and two new sedans.

Our Associate Ranger, German, took a little trip last month to San Mateo to attend a fire instructors training course put on by the State Department of Education. He not only came back loaded with knowledge but a diploma to prove it. This knowledge will be passed out soon to District personnel in a training program.

Films have been shown to 68 schools and some of the schools awarded us with pictures to show us their learnings. These pictures were drawn by students and were parts of the different films shown to them. They were sent to Fire Prevention Officer, Mace Pewtherer.

Our Gonzales Station has been completed as far as the buildings are concerned. They are now planting trees, lawn, and flowers on the surrounding acres. Also we are in the process of changing the name to the "Gabilan Station."

Lockwood Station should be ready for occupancy by fore part of July.

Smokey was quite an attraction to the people of the Salinas Valley Fair which was held in King City last month. We had a backdrop with Smokey sitting in the foreground on a log. This project was accomplished under the supervision of Assistant Ranger Harp. The backdrop was painted by an inmate at our Slack Canyon CDC Camp. The painting was a mountain scene in green and gold with a sign "Keep California Green and Golden."

Alice Johnsen
Intermediate Typist-Clerk

DISTRICT V

Associate Ranger Roscoe Savage, formerly assigned to headquarters, was transferred in May to Santa Clara County. He was replaced by Associate Ranger Nash, Santa Clara County.

Jeanne Dam resigned to accept another position in May. She has been replaced by Mrs. Frances Setzer. This clerk position has certainly seen the ups and down in the past year and we hope that Accounting Technician George Marten will not have to train another girl for some time.

Tommy Perkins, formerly a Forestry Trainee attached to this office, was transferred to Monterey County at the beginning of fire season. He is now a Foreman in charge of the Tularcitos Fire Control Station in Carmel Valley.

Fred Terwilliger, a Foreman from San Luis Obispo County, reported to our District Headquarters on June 10 to fill the vacancy of Forestry Trainee.

Oliver ("Brock") Brockliss, our Assistant Construction Inspector in District V, left us June 18 to be employed by the State Veterans Affairs.

Our Vacationers: A vacation in Europe during the month of May was thoroughly enjoyed by our Assistant Deputy Carl Albertus. He flew both ways, visited relatives in Denmark most of the time, but saved a few days for a fling in Paris before he came home. He can be truly proud of the colored pictures he took on his overseas visit.

Another high flyer in the District Office is Mrs. Dasonville who flew to New York and back in May. She spent a week there visiting her daughter who is an air hostess with United Airlines in Newark.

The Big Event of the Year - the District Picnic - was held at Bolado Park, San Benito County, on May 16th. It was quite a warm day so the Park made money on the swimming tickets we purchased. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves. Mr. and Mrs. Strickland joined us and it was very nice seeing them again.

On July 1, a Ranger and Project Supervisor Meeting was held at the District Office. Deputy Moran presented Ranger Austin with a pin and certificate for 25 years of service with the State Division of Forestry.

This concludes my last reporting from District V. I leave July 2nd to join the Army (not as a WAAC but as a wife). I've enjoyed sending in the news from this District, and sign off hoping that someone will carry on. Goodby, Forestry friends.

Patricia Lynn
Intermediate Typist-Clerk

DISTRICT VI

After a big burst of response last month to our invitation for contributions from our Counties, District VI is again settling back into quiescence. We must report, though, that things are jumping at the District Office. We have just lost

a good Trainee, Richard Diltz, who seemed to have what Calaveras County wanted. We'll miss Dick, but know our loss is someone else's gain.

For two months now, things have been quiet on the fire fronts - too much fog sifting down past San Luis Obispo. Right at the moment, our total fire occurrence is down to normal after a rapid first three months. Keep her coming S.L.O.

An now, the only article on hand for publication was submitted by our Forest Technician, Paul Sischo.

Recent items of news might lead one to believe that Southern California is an area of low humidity, high temperature, east winds, and burned-over brush land. We take this opportunity to point out that there is lots of brush land and a few sticks of green timber in them hills, and that our time is not altogether occupied in battling out fires.

Although most of the 306,000 acres of coniferous timberland in San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties is of a recreational character, there are 21 registered timber operators removing forest products ranging from saw-logs to movie sets, fuel wood to piling. There were six saw mills operating last year (off and on) which turned out approximately $6\frac{1}{2}$ million feet of lumber and a new modern band mill has recently started operating which cuts 50 thousand feet per day. The much despised Coulter Pine is finally receiving recognition as a commercial tree and during the last year one thousand were cut and used very satisfactorily for piling. It appears also that some of the Oaks in San Diego County will be put to good use, as the new California Carbon and Chemical Company over at Santa Ysabel is now in production turning out charcoal and by-products.

Two new Western Pine Association Tree Farms were recently certified in District VI, bringing the total to eight with a combined acreage of 8 thousand acres.

The District has handled three insect control projects during the last year. The largest is the San Bernardino Zone, which is a year round maintenance project handled cooperatively with the U.S.F.S. Approximately 800 trees will have been treated by July 1. The San Jacinto Zone project is also a U.S.F.S. cooperative effort, which will involve around 300 trees. The third project was in cooperation with the Division of Beaches and Parks at Cuyamaca State Park in which 205 Jeffrey Pines infested with Flatheaded borers were treated. The effectiveness of the late start (May 7) but in any case we succeeded in cleaning up the Park to the extent of 200 potential snags.

A Forest Management training school was held in each of the four counties during March, which was attended by a total of 86 foremen, associate and assistant rangers. The Riverside County contingent got so ambitious that they gave up a Saturday of their own time to running compass lines and cruising timber in the San Jacinto Mountains.

Experiments in planting and direct seeding are being conducted on Cuyamaca Mountain and at several fire stations. It is hoped that in another year or two we can point to some definite conclusions. Over forty thousand seedlings were planted by private land owners this year in lots varying from 100 to 3000. Although this does not represent a large acreage, the interest shown is encouraging. Did someone holler "fire"?

James K. Mace, Deputy State Forester

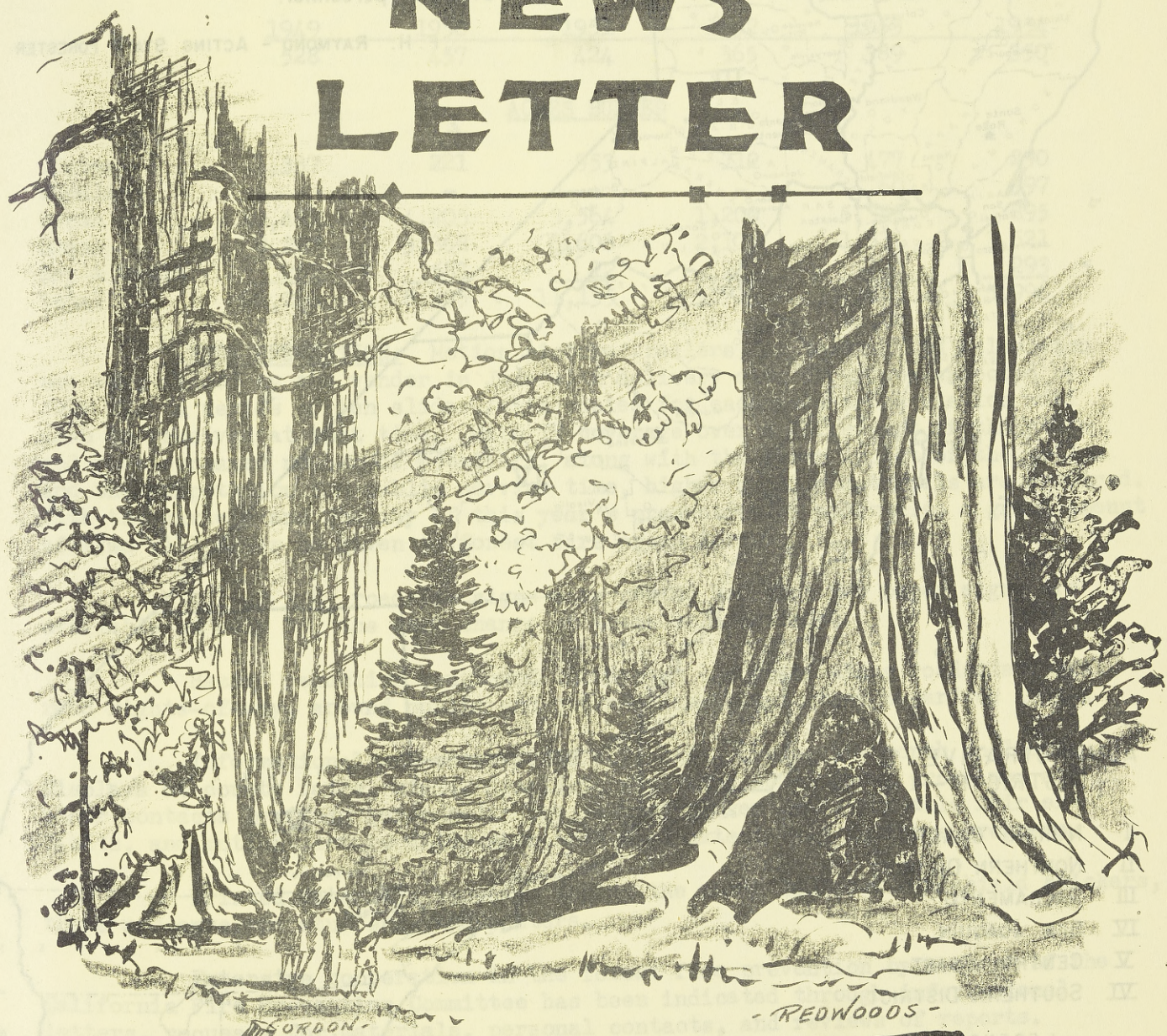
State of
California

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

- JULY -
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NEWS LETTER



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

ADMINISTRATIVE
— DISTRICTS —

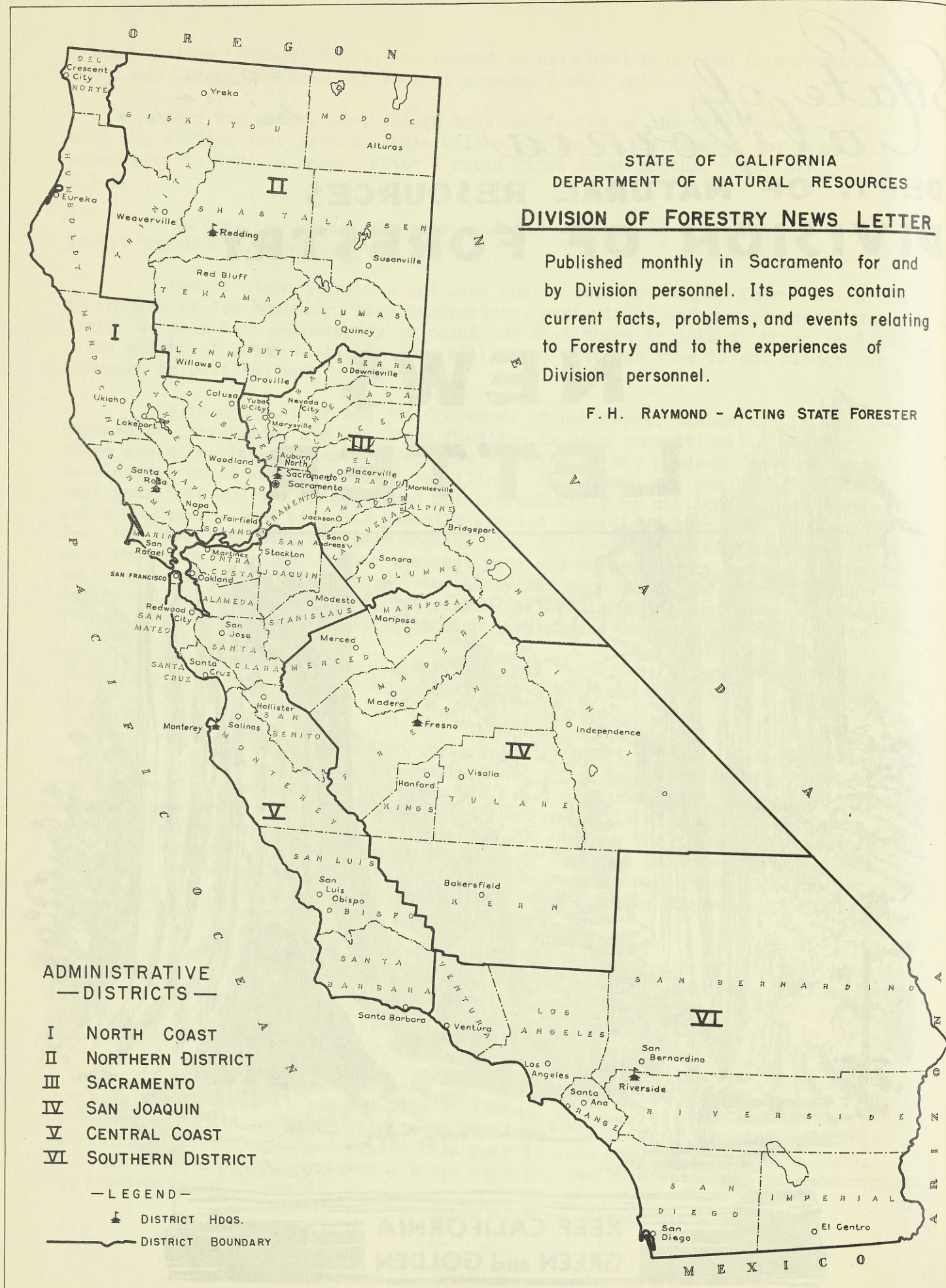
- I NORTH COAST
- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

— LEGEND —



DISTRICT HDQS.

— DISTRICT BOUNDARY



JUNE ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The forest fire situation in the state gained impetus during the last two weeks of the month when temperatures rose to above 100 degrees, with low humidities and fuel moisture.

During this fifteen-day period fire risks in most districts varied from critical to extreme. There has been an excessive amount of wind for this period of the year causing fires to gain considerable size before controlled, however, all fires were controlled in a one-day period.

The record to June 20 compared to the last five years to the same date is as follows:

NUMBER OF FOREST FIRES

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
528	457	424	365	389	350

ACRES BURNED

Timber	1,337	221	953	112	477	290
Woodland	-	-	-	-	60	997
Brush	10,451	4,205	3,564	1,200	5,353	895
Grass	8,227	3,368	6,606	2,175	1,514	3,521
Hay & Grain	<u>251</u>	<u>581</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>226</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>293</u>
Total	20,266	8,375	11,135	3,713	7,529	5,996

FIRE PREVENTION: Motion picture trailers for theater and television use were filmed by the vendor in June with delivery date of prints expected by July 12. A series of ten slides, with copies for each television station will also be received at that time. With TV coverage over a large part of the state and the increased number of receivers, along with the known impact of the medium and the competition for public service time, higher quality materials are required. With the variety and quality of this year's production of materials, a great amount of time will again be given to forest fire prevention.

All 4' x 8' roadside signs were posted and when new paper signs are available on July 15, the next change of theme will be made.

Hazard reduction continued throughout the state along roadsides, railroad rights-of-way, around public and private dumps, and other hazardous areas.

Informational and educational activities during the month included: Displays at county fairs, window displays, adult and youth group programs, and other contacts by field personnel. The talking Smokey Bear, portable fair exhibits, and motion picture films have been used extensively in these programs.

Printed materials received during the month included windshield stickers, three new envelope stuffers, and posters.

Extensive cooperation in the forest fire prevention by members of the California Fire Prevention Committee has been indicated through informational letters, requests for materials, personal contacts, and reviews of reports.

FOREST MANAGEMENT: In response to the request of the State Board of Forestry, the Redwood Forest Practice Committee met in Scotia on June 4 to study and discuss the evaluation of the performance achievements of the Forest Practice Rules for that district. The Committee was impressed by the plans and policies which have been initiated, as a result of the Forest Practice Rules, on some of the operations inspected by the Committee on their field trip in the Scotia and Van Duzen River areas. The Committee requested that the Division of Forestry aid in carrying on this survey, and that the Division contact companies in the Redwood Forest District to obtain from them their plans and programs which are being used to meet the requirements of the Rules.

The State Board of Forestry met in Piercy on June 25-27 to approve alternate plans; review lightning dispersal experiments, use of helicopters, and fire control equipment development and improvement made by the Division; and to consider a proposed natural resource research program. On Saturday the Board made a field tour of logging operations in the vicinity of Piercy to become better acquainted with the problems of logging and growing timber in the Piercy area.

Scott Lumber Company, Inc. of Burney was awarded the 1954 Latour State Forest Timber sale when sealed bids were opened on June 1 in Redding, California. This sale involves approximately 1,781,000 board feet of mixed conifer timber on some 110 acres of land on three scattered parcels that has been marked for cutting on selective basis under the unit area control system. The timber was sold at the following stumpage rates per thousand board feet: Sugar pine \$34.50, ponderosa and Jeffrey pine \$35.50, red fir and white fir \$10,000, incense cedar \$3.00. This sale is being made on a scale basis and should bring an estimated return to the State of \$37,828. The purchaser commenced felling on June 25 and plans to commence logging early in July.

The Western Nurserymen Conference was held in Sacramento on June 17 and 18. The conference agenda included problems of large forest nurseries, work now being carried on and results expected in the future. Personnel from the Division involved in forest nursery work attended the conference. Commercial nurserymen, foresters, and interested parties from the Pacific Coast States, British Columbia, Montana, and Idaho attended the conference. The 18th included a trip through the Institute of Forest Genetics at Placerville and the inspection of a forest plantation in El Dorado County.

Despite the fact that 1953 was a poor seed year for forest tree species, the Division was successful in collecting 2,009 pounds of clean seed which will be used in the propagation of state forest nursery planting stock.

Reports received by the Division of Forestry to date indicate that ranchers plan to do controlled burning on approximately 191,000 acres of brush land in the foothill areas of California during 1954. Nearly one-third of this controlled burning has been planned for Mariposa County, where 105 ranchers have made applications for burning of 58,766 acres of chaparral. Ranchers of the North Coast District and in the Mother Lode area have signified intentions of treating 47,767 acres and 27,452 acres, respectively.

A cooperative study of the costs and returns of controlled burning of brush lands for range improvement in Northern California, carried on by the Division of Forestry and School of Forestry, University of California, was completed during June. The report on this project will be ready for distribution in about

a month. It will contain information of value to ranchers, agriculturalists, and public agencies concerned with problems of land management in the chaparral-covered lands of the state.

Arrangements have been completed for the Division of Forestry to conduct an experimental study of controlled land clearing and revegetation for range forage production on 320 acres of land belonging to the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation in Shasta County. This work will be done in cooperation with the Agricultural Extension Service, University of California; it is the fifth ^{such} study to be carried on under provisions of Division 4, Chapter 7.5, Public Resources Code. It is designed to compare the effectiveness of controlled burning vs. use of mechanical equipment in clearing brush land for range use; to determine the value of a number of range forage plants for reseeding brush ranges in eastern Shasta County; and to develop information on good grazing practices for these ranges following clearing.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: The state-wide inspection of automotive equipment for budget preparation which was started in the middle of May was completed and a total of 106 units were inspected. Final inspection and delivery was made on 6 Production Model #1 four-man fire trucks having 500 gallon tanks and 250 GPM pumps. Four of these units are being delivered to District VI and two to District III.

Several inspections were made on the nine #4 Production Models of the four wheel drive crew truck and although the contract was not awarded until May, the vendor will complete delivery to us by July 10.

The experimental combination water and back firing trailer was completed to the testing point and was tested for load capacity. Performance exceeded our early expectations permitting a capacity of 550 gallons.

A service agreement was approved and construction started on a small tilting pull trailer for use in conjunction with the fire plow and tractor now temporarily assigned to District I.

An experimental fibreglass canteen was presented to us by the Aero-jet-General Corporation for our consideration and tentative plans are being made to purchase a few for field testing.

ENGINEERING: The combination barracks and messhall and the equipment building at Ukiah Fire Control Station in Mendocino County has been completed.

The equipment building at Point Arena Fire Control Station also in Mendocino County is nearing completion and work has been started on the barracks building.

The remodeling of the Yreka Headquarters office in Siskiyou County is practically complete and work is progressing on the barracks addition.

The kitchen and messhall building at Sonora Headquarters, Tuolumne County, has now been completed.

Work is progressing on Coalinga Fire Control Station and C.Y.A. Spike Camp in Fresno County.

Construction has been started on Shandon Fire Control Station in San Luis Obispo County.

Grading and lay-out plans have been presented to the Division of Architecture for final plans of the High Rock Forestry Honor Camp in Humboldt County.

SUGGESTED READING

A new book on ecology titled "The Web of Life" by John H. Storer. This is one of the most readable and understandable books on the fundamentals of ecology that I have read. As one reviewer puts it, this book does for all of nature what The Sea Around Us did for the ocean. It is published by The Devin-Adair Company, 23 East 26 Street, New York 10, and sells for \$3.00.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT II

District II's annual field trip for all the girls in the office got off to a flying start this year with everyone on hand bright and early with the exception of Evelyn Enger who was ill with a cold and could not join us. In fact Mr. Callaghan was so anxious to start the trip this year that he was in the office and working by the time all the girls arrived and we arrived at seven!

Siskiyou County was decided on this year again as there has been an enormous amount of work done up there over the period of a year. All headquarters buildings had been moved with the office and barracks being enlarged as well as various other improvements so we were anxious to see all the changes.

We were met at Weed by Clint Phillips, Larry Kirten, and Don Roleder who had almost given us up as we were late, but on the way to Weed Mr. Callaghan had asked the girls riding in his car if they would like to see the Mt. Shasta Weather Station. Of course, we said yes. We had heard about the enormous relief map of the Shasta National Forest and also we receive weather reports from there daily so we felt we should have a look. Lee Friberg was the driver of the other car so he followed Mr. Callaghan to a stop at Mt. Shasta and we piled into the office there - all nine of us - we were met by Mel Adams, Chief Dispatcher, and shown all over the Forest Supervisor's office, zone dispatching, and fire weather office which is across the street. It was a little confusing to see a clock on one wall with regular time and in another room a clock giving daylight savings time. The relief model of Shasta National Forest is something to see. It shows all ridges, mountains, lakes, streams and in relief you can really visualize the territory. All the lookouts are designated by little flashlight bulbs and when these are lit up it is quite impressive. The map covers all of one side of the wall in their reception office. It appears that the pressure will now be on the Shasta National Forest Supervisor to initiate an educational field trip for his office force, as they expressed great interest in our trip.

When we finally arrived in Weed, it had been raining and Mt. Shasta was covered with a heavy fog so we could not see any of it. Mr. Phillips and Larry Kirten had collaborated on a program for us and if we deviated from it, it was not their fault but the weather. Following is quoted from their program:

EXCURSION THROUGH GOD'S WONDERLAND
SISKIYOU COUNTY
June 15, 1954

Stop 1: Highway 97, 10 miles NE of Weed. Coffee Time !

On the way to this top, note the many Lava Flows on your right, originating from Mt. Shasta, an extinct volcano. Shasta is one of the highest peaks in California: 14,162.

At stop 1 we shall point out some principal vegetative types of Siskiyou County.

Stop 2: Subterranean cave on the Juniper Road. Discovered just a few years ago when a bulldozer working on this road opened a lava tunnel.

Stop 3: Charlie Drummond's game preserve.

Stop 4: Yreka Station, better known to you girls as "3XX2-18": The object of our affections as well as of our numerous SPO's and not-numerous-enough requisitions.

LUNCH! (Beans and Sourbelly)

Stop 5: Oliver Costello's Range Improvement Burn of 1952. Really not a good example of what the program is trying to do but it's nearby and there's a beautiful view of Mt. Shasta from the ridge top.

Stop 6: Lem Carter's logging operation. If roads are too slippery, we may not go to the landing but will have to be satisfied with viewing his logging of this past spring.

Stop 7: Duzel Rock L.O. Strap on your oxygen tanks; it's a steep climb to the top, but well worth the effort.

Stop 8: Ft. Jones Station. COFFEE TIME! a little late, probably, but better than none at all.

From here we'll head south through the Scott Valley to Callahan, then over a good dirt road to Gazelle. From there, you're on your own. Back to Redding.

On this trip you've seen less than two-thirds of our Ranger Unit. Next time we'll show you the rest. It is our desire that you will have enjoyed yourselves thoroughly. In a small way we hope we have shown our appreciation for all the help and patience you've expressed in the past and for the cooperation we know you'll give us in the future.

Thanks a million, you all!

The Siskiyou Gang

end of quoted program:

The first highlight of scenery enroute from Weed was a yawning cavern, a subterranean cave, discovered when a bulldozer, working on road improvement, broke through the earth - and almost falling in, driver and all, revealed this big lava tube. Geologists say centuries ago Mt. Shasta eruptions of flowing lava left behind it such caves after the lava flow had subsided. As one views this now, it is just an empty channel, left to be explored by someone interested and daring enough to do so.

Our trip to a lookout which was scheduled Duzel Rock had to be changed due to bad roads. We went to the most accessible which was the U. S. Forestry Quartz Mountain Lookout. The climb to this tower was none the less inspiring, but not nearly so arduous and dangerous as Duzel ascent. It was interesting to say the least. The view was wide ranging. The lookout (employee), aside from being a pleasant receptionist was an able artist, he was working on a profile painting of a very beautiful lady of the 1880 glamour. Speaking of glamour, we all wondered where he, the artist, got that mustache.

We pretty much stuck to the program for the rest of the trip and returned to the main highway by way of Scott's Valley. This alone was a beautiful trip. It was late when we arrived home. Every year is the best field trip we have had.

Have you ever wondered why the yearly field trip of the girls is the only news item received by News Letter from the District II office? It's because the girls write it.

LETTER TO RANGER NEIL OF BUTTE COUNTY

"On July 6 about 11:25 A.M. fire was discovered in the canyon about 2,000 feet below our mining operations. Within a few minutes fire fighters under your command appeared, and within an hour men and equipment from more than 20 miles away were on the scene. For a time the situation seemed so desperate that we were advised to evacuate our home, however, the home and all the works at the mine are here and undamaged, due to the skill and intelligence of your trained assistants and it is a pleasure to express our humble gratitude, to all of you including the men who came from the detention camp at Magalia who for infraction of law are wards of the State, but nevertheless acquitted themselves as good courageous citizens and we request that you let them know of our appreciation of their service to us.

Respectfully yours,
Morris Ravine Mining Company
s/ J. H. Sharpe, President"

DISTRICT III

We regret to report the death on July 6, 1954, in the line of duty, of one of our most popular Forestry Equipment Operators, Foster Vernon. He was operating the Calaveras TD-18 on the fire line in the famous Camp 9 country near Vallecito, California. The fire was burning in very steep terrain and Foster was working the TD-18 on a steep side hill. The cat slipped a track on the down-hill side. A rented cat was brought in and used as an anchor at the top of the hill to winch the TD-18 up the side of the hill for repair work. Foster was riding the crippled cat on the end of the tow line when it started

to list. Heeding a warning he stood up on the inside of the personnel guard and then decided not to jump but to ride the cat down. He was thrown underneath the cat on the first turn-over. He was crushed and killed instantly. The cat made three turns and came to rest right side up with little damage done to the unit or personnel guard.

Foster had many friends throughout the Division. He was a very capable individual that always exhibited his best qualities. He was admired by his fellow workers for his ability in handling equipment and for his leadership in training young men.

The Division has again lost one of its splendid workmen in the harrowing occupation of protecting our natural resources. We pause this moment to extend our sympathies to his wife Hazel and their six children of Angels Camp, California.

Fred Dunow, Deputy State Forester

NEVADA COUNTY

The Division of Forestry's already twice-victorious hose cart team from Nevada County again returned home triumphant; this time defeating eleven other teams coming from all over Northern California and the Mother Lode area to compete in the Sacramento Fireman's Association's annual hose cart race held in Bryte, California, on July 18.

The speedy sextet pulled the hose cart 112 yards, made the necessary connections, and doused the appointed target in the winning time of 32.1 seconds. Arcade with the time of 33 seconds finished second, and Carmichael, last year's winner, finished third. A team from Camp Beale received fourth place.

The winning team was composed of B. Bagley, B. Bush, D. Rodgers, L. Fore, and R. Wegman, with J. Odgers acting as captain. Odgers is at present a trainee from the District III office. The other five victors are members of Nevada City's fire suppression crews.

This is the third consecutive win for this undefeated team. They brought home the winning trophy from last year's Nevada County Fourth of July celebration, and at this year's "Doin's at the Diggin's" they again attained victory with the phenomenal time of 31 seconds, bettering their previous year's time by several seconds.

HEARD AT THE DINING TABLE:

Did you see D - 2 on that Beale fire yesterday working like made with that Barron tool?

New fire fighter: Yeah, I saw that fellow. What crew is he on?

Clarance Armstrong, Foreman, Nevada County

MORE ABOUT NEVADA COUNTY

Nevada County has been quite busy with fires during the long weekend of July 3, 4, and 5. This year to date we have had 79 fires against 70 for the same date in 1953. Our acreage remains quite small showing that the crews are making some good catches.

Our Columbia Hill Station opened with our senior Foreman Warren Woodside in charge. His good wife, Hazel, is in charge of operation vittles and doing a very excellent job. Del will vouch for this statement as we heard him go 10-7 at about 12:00 there recently on his hurried trip through the county, we hope he can make a more leisurely one at some future date.

Our Junior Foreman is boss man at Shady Creek. He is none other than W. D. Phillippi who come to us from Pennsylvania, where he was engaged in much of the same kind of work.

George Newcomb, a would be fisherman and cave explorer extraordinary, is again in charge of The Higgins Corner Crew.

We have just received a G.M.C. fire truck with a capacity of 500 gallons of water and it carrying enough hose to keep the crew busy washing for a week of Sundays.

We have just lost our Relief Lookout as he is taking another state job, and we understand Lawrence has persuaded a very attractive young lady to take the name of Gray in the very near future, the best to you, Punkie, from all of us.

Well, the Champion Hose Cart Team of Northern California had done it again. A team from White Cloud in the Tahoe National Forest pulled up in second place with next best time of around 34 seconds. Third place went to the Camp Beale Six.

First Place paid twenty silver dollars.

Clarence O. Armstrong, Foreman

KINGS COUNTY

This month finds our grain in the bins. The only equipment remaining in the field are few and scattered.

Each year we are vitally concerned over our barley fields during harvest season. The crop this year consisted of 200,000 acres. The yield averaged $1\frac{1}{4}$ tons per acre. The price averaged \$47.50 per ton, total value \$11,875,000.00

Fire loss to standing barley was 45 acres from 6 starts.

The last remaining Fire District ceased to function as of July 1, 1954, with all property and equipment being turned over to the county under supervision of the California Division of Forestry. We refer to the Armona Fire District. However, they have a group of fine Volunteer Firemen and they will keep in touch with the "old-Home-Town" just the same.

A new 750 GPM Pumper has been ordered from the Yankee Motor Body Company, who received order from our Board of Supervisors, having submitted the low bid.

Jean T. Couste, Assistant Ranger

DISTRICT VI

Last month, we thanked District V for sending fog down to us and asked for more. They pretty well obliged through June, therefore, our fire occurrence has been low even when District II, III, and IV were hurting in late June. However, that nice stuff has finally been pierced with 100-degree sunshine and we have recorded three Class E fires, all controlled the first night, one in Cajon Pass (San Bernardino) at 600 acres, one near San Juan Capistrano (Orange) 3,200 acres, and one east of Riverside City - 400 acres. More fog, please!!

Recently lost to District VI was Assistant Ranger Jack Cullumber, a gain for District I and their new Forestry Work Project Camp. Moving from Orange to San Diego County to fill the Cullumber vacancy is ex-foreman Louis Baldwin, now Assistant Ranger. Other recent additions were Ray Williams from District II and Arlie D. Hill from District III, both hitting our Morena CDC Camp. Good luck to all of you.

Doug. Glenn, Dispatcher

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

On Monday the fourteenth of June the first crew of 20 county prisoners was turned over to Assistant Ranger William H. (Bud) Brownlee and Foreman Robert Vinar for use on our proposed firebreak system, beginning on the old Banning-Idyllwild Road. Work progressed very satisfactorily on the project during the remainder of the month.

When additional crews are available they will be shared with the U.S. Forest Service, and work will then begin on the Hall Grade Firebreak.

With the advent of fire season we find eight or nine of our key personnel on the Sick, lame, and Lazy list. If we have a bad siege of fires, we hope that these people will miraculously recover and return to duty. Should the worst come to pass, I fear that those remaining would be forced to the old system of turning their hats around and proceeding back up the mountain to effect a shift relief. (Editor's comment, "I didn't know we had ever changed from the old system" - your dispatcher.)

Raymond H. Banks
Associate State Forest Ranger

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Associate Curley Francis has been in the market for a new house lately. He was pretty well satisfied with the one he had until the State Highway built a freeway through the middle of it. Curley said he didn't mind the traffic so much until the oil tankers started making left turns in the living room and shifting gears in the hall during a.m. hours. He's getting all lined out on a

new place now and I smell a house warming coming up.

Foreman Don Keys and Chuck Whisnand report new fire fighters applications due from their families in about 1972 - cigars are now in order. Just another way of getting their legs in shape for fire season.

Fire business has been slow due to prevention asking the weather bureau for favorable weather.

F. N. Anderson
Assistant Ranger

JUST RECEIVED IN THE MAIL FROM DISTRICT IV AND V

DISTRICT IV

Donald Conover, 17 year old fire fighter, was fatally injured July 11th while working on a cement mixer used in conjunction with Friant Brick Project in Fresno County.

Robert J. Moran
Associate State Forest Ranger

Associate State Forest Ranger, Curtis Lindley, is confined to the Hanford General Hospital as the result of being struck by a car while directing traffic at the scene of a fire on the evening of July 30th.

According to reports, Curtis is progressing as well as can be expected with a fractured left leg. We join with Curtis's many friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

Five new Civil Defense trucks were allocated to this region by Civil Defense authorities. The equipment which will be available for training and certain conditions on mutual aid fires were assigned to the City of Taft, the City of Coalinga, the City of Porterville, the County of Kings, and to the Fresno County Division of Forestry.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

The following is received in the District Office from Mrs. Dorothy L. Myers, Home Advisor, 4-H Clubs, directed to Mr. Dean Schlobohm:

"Dear Mr. Schlobohm:

"We've certainly had an excellent camping season this summer, and I know that to many of our youngsters, your talks with them were well remembered. We wanted you to know how very much we appreciated your coming up to Whitaker's to talk with us and our campers. We did enjoy having you with us for even the short time you were here.

"Thanks so much again for your being with us."

Wm.T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

DISTRICT V

At a recent ranger meeting held in the District V Headquarters Office in Monterey, State Forest Ranger Willard C. Austin was honored with the presentation of a 25-year service award and pin by Deputy State Forester Lewis A. Moran. The presentation was made in the presence of all District V rangers and the district office staff. Photographs of the occasion were taken by the Monterey Peninsula Herald.

Ranger Austin began his career in Forestry with the U. S. Forest Service as a forest guard at the Magalia Ranger Station on the Lassen National Forest on May 15, 1924. The following year he was transferred to the Crocker Ranger Station on the Beckwourth District of the Plumas National Forest, where he remained until he entered state service as State Forest Ranger in charge of El Dorado County on May 15, 1929. During his career in El Dorado County, Ranger Austin pioneered the establishment and development of the old state labor camps during the depression days, the Civilian Conservation Corps., also a number of other governmental work relief projects.

He was highly commended in an article written by the late Author Samuel Blythe in the May 27, 1933, issue of the Saturday Evening Post for his work in the state labor camps.

Upon the establishment of the districts in May, 1943, Ranger Austin was transferred to Monterey County to replace Francis Raymond, who was promoted to Deputy State Forester. During his career in Monterey County he has organized a county-wide fire prevention program in cooperation with the Farm Bureau, ranchers, Southern Pacific Railroad, and with both state and county road systems that has greatly reduced the annual fire occurrence. During the past year he has been instrumental in organizing and developing a permanent farmers advisory committee on fire prevention and control, resulting in a smoother working relationship between the rancher, landowner, and the Division.

During his career with the Division Ranger Austin has taken an active interest in the welfare of his fellow state employees. He is a Past President of Monterey Bay Chapter #64, CSEA, and was also a delegate to the 22nd and 23rd General Councils of CSEA. His community service includes past presidency of Placerville Parlor #9 N.S.G.W. He has served several years as a committee member of the Salinas Valley Fair. During World War II he served as a member of the Monterey County War Board and as Director at Large of the Monterey County Farm Bureau for five years. He is a member of the Central Coast Fire Chiefs Association and California Rural Fire Association.

Ranger Austin's career has certainly covered a memorable period in the history of California Forestry starting in the saddle and pack horse days, then the Model "T", through the depression and relief work camps resulting there from, that actually developed the Division into a major organization; through two wars, in a county that is highly military, where, I can vouch, one must be a specialist in diplomacy. Then into our modern mechanized fire fighting organization of four-wheel drive fire trucks, bulldozers, airplanes, and helicopters.

G. D. German
Associate Ranger

Monterey County has lost its good looking, congenial, and efficient Intermediate Typsit Clerk, Alice Johnsen. Alice has left to join her hubby (one of Uncle Sams Boys) at Waco, Texas. Latest reports are that in her opinion the California windy city in the valley by the sea isn't the worst place in which to live. Alice has been replaced by Sarah Mae Burkman, a former employee of the County of Monterey and later an employee of the Bank of America, King City Branch.

Tommy Perkins FFF has been transferred to King City as dispatcher in the Monterey County Headquarters Office.

W. C. Austin
State Forest Ranger II

State of
California

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

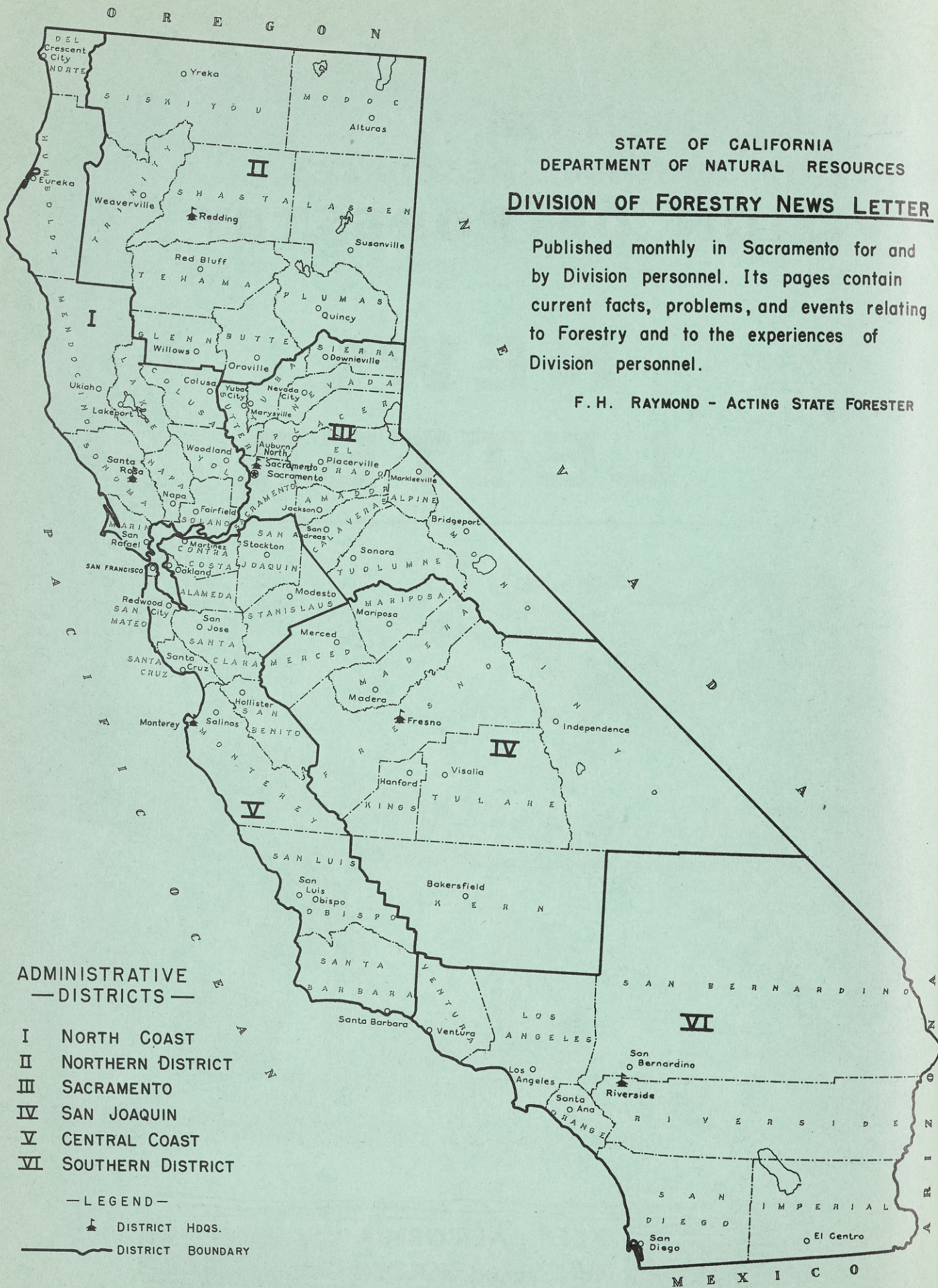
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VOL 13 NO. 8

NEWS LETTER





STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

JULY ACTIVITIES

Fire Control: Fire weather in the five northern districts from July 15 to the end of the month remained critical to extreme and strong wind conditions were prevalent.

During this period a number of large and extremely damaging and costly fires were fought. Three of these fires burned several thousand acres of timber in Lassen, Sonoma, and Mendocino Counties. There was also an outbreak of incendiarism in the Redding area where nine fires ^{were} set at about 5:00 P.M. one evening and burned over 11,000 acres and several homes before it was brought under control at 7 o'clock the following morning. There appeared to be no organized effort behind these nine fire starts and it is believed to have been the act of juveniles.

One other serious fire in Santa Cruz County burned some twenty-six buildings of the famed Mt. Herman Community where some 3,000 people were attending bible school. A Division of Forestry fire truck was completely destroyed in this fire and its crew of four men severely burned.

In Southern California a fire in Cajon Pass spread rapidly and consumed an estimated 1,000 acres of watershed before being controlled.

The fire record from January 1, 1954, to July 20, 1954, corresponding to similar dates for the past five years is listed below.

NUMBER OF FOREST FIRES

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
986	939	868	709	834	835

ACRES BURNED BY TYPE

Timber	2,464	844	2,840	278	1,782	595
Woodland	-	-	-	-	24,247	3,504
Brush	19,158	32,820	16,294	2,166	25,343	9,060
Grass	16,249	10,375	15,691	11,159	9,740	13,497
Hay-Grain	<u>562</u>	<u>1,178</u>	<u>206</u>	<u>681</u>	<u>823</u>	<u>1,421</u>
	38,433	45,217	35,031	14,284	61,935	28,059

In absence of correct number of acres burned between July 20 and July 31 it is estimated with the number of fires in progress that at least 40,000 acres will be blackened during this ten-day period.

Fire Prevention: During the periods when field personnel were not tied up on going fires programs with adult and youth groups continued. Several exhibits were prepared and displayed at county and district fairs. The second posting of 4' x 8' roadside signs was started and in some districts completed. Many miles of highway rights-of-way and areas around public dumps were fireproofed.

Fire prevention trailers, featurettes, and slides were received from the vendors and delivered to every television station in the state and the 35 mm prints delivered to motion picture theaters.

Spot announcements were prepared and delivered through regular channels to radio stations which now is a complete coverage of all stations in California.

The talking "Smokey Bear" was displayed at several places including railroad stations, county fairs, conventions, and stores.

Requests for printed materials from members of the California Fire Prevention Committee continued with the military heading the list, along with the San Francisco Keep Green Committee.

Forest and Range Management: Caspar Lumber Company cut and removed 14,890,604 board feet of timber from the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County, bringing \$199,939.56 to the State in the form of revenue. This sale was awarded in February of 1953. The purchaser completed the selective logging of this sale late in June. The 473 acres of redwood and Douglas fir timber cut under this sale have been left with sufficient trees for restocking purposes and to accelerate the growth on the reserved trees for future timber crops.

The Aborigine Lumber Company at Fort Bragg was awarded the sale of approximately 100,000 board feet of young growth logs from the Jackson State Forest on July 20, 1954, when the sealed bids were opened. These logs were cut from the additional areas being developed at Parlin Fork for expansion of the forest nursery. The logs were sold on a scale basis of \$15.50 per thousand board feet for Douglas fir, \$9.70 for white fir, and \$7.00 for redwood.

Scott Lumber Company of Burney has completed their logging of the 1954 timber sale on the Latour State Forest removing some 1,900,000 board feet of mature and over-mature mixed coniferous timber valued at over \$38,000.

The 1953-54 State Forest Nursery annual report reveals the largest number of trees sold for any one year since the establishment in 1922. There were 443,450 trees sold during the fiscal year with a total income of \$22,453.

The public, including forest industries purchased 67% of the trees sold. A little over half, 56% or 161,000 trees sold to the public were for forest products plantings, mostly Christmas trees. Of the total stock sold to all classes of purchasers, governmental agencies and the public, 63% or 275,000 were sold for planting forest products; 26% or 112,000 were sold for erosion control and farm windbreaks, and 11% or 51,000 were sold for roadside planting and landscaping public grounds, mostly schools. More stock of the commercial timber species was available; forest products planting jumped from 12% last season to 63% during the 1953-54 planting season.

The Division of Forestry used 31,598 trees for planting on State Forests and small demonstration plantations and 3,315 trees for landscaping fire control stations.

On July 6, 1954, field work was begun on the Soil-Vegetation Survey of Humboldt County. This survey, authorized by the Legislature in 1953, is being conducted by the California Forest and Range Experiment Station and the University of California, under administrative supervision of the Division of Forestry. It will provide an inventory of the soils, vegetative cover, and physical conditions of the wildlands where the Division of Forestry has responsibility for fire protection.

Range Technicians from the Sacramento and District I headquarters spent the major part of one week in the field with the survey crews in southeastern Humboldt County, while they were being instructed in the range management phases of this survey.

Automotive Equipment: Nine #4 models, Ford Marmon Herrington crew trucks were completed by Superior Truck and Body Company and are now being delivered to the field.

Engineering: Fresno County map has been delivered by the State Printer's Office and has been sent to the district. Revisions have been made of the following maps: Tehama County, Sonoma County, and Colusa County.

SACRAMENTO AIRMAN VICTIM OF CRASH FORMER CDF EMPLOYEE

Airman First Class Glenn E. Kerri was one of twenty-four airmen killed in the crash of the B-36 bomber at Ellsworth Air Force Base. Glenn worked for the Division in Humboldt County during the fire season in 1949 and 1950 as a fire fighter. He enlisted in the Air Force in January, 1950, and had been stationed at Ellsworth since January, 1951.

FROM A REPORT ON A STATE EMPLOYEE

"We found in a very high state of intoxication; she was very historical...."

ABOUT THE DIVISION

KINGS COUNTY

On July 30 Associate State Ranger, Curt Lindley was the victim of a very unfortunate accident having been hit by a car while directing traffic at the scene of a fire. His injuries consisted of a broken leg and severe bruises and abrasions.

We are happy to report however, that he is recovering nicely and expects to be discharged from the hospital soon. All of Kings County employees wish to join with Curt's many friends in wishing him a speedy recovery.

James W. Kirklin, Fire Truck Driver at Avenal, is now a proud father of a little girl. This is the first for the Kirklin's and quite an eventful occasion.

In District IV, we, too, often enjoy beans. Sometimes with sourdough but usually with sow belly. Wonder if we have been missing out - we note in July News Letter, Page 7, that the field trip had "Sourbelly" for lunch. Receipe, please!

Jean T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

"THE WOUNDED MOUNTAIN" by Peggy Lee

Big green mountain
Rest...your wounded breast
Time will heal....and you will feel
again the tender green...the young...the new

We....who circle to your top
will try to remember
the careless ember
the spark
that left you so.

And spring will come
to green away the blackened grass
You will see....young trees will grow
The scar won't show...

Rest....Big green mountain
without that look of shame
We...not you..are to blame.

DISTRICT VI

The fog we requested from District V didn't materialize in July but thanks to Texas and Mexico, humid-hot weather was our mid and late July fare and thus, as a considerable result, our fire occurrence and acreage continued low. Riverside City perspired under an average 99 degrees with noon humidities of 37% average. One day we hit 106 degrees. However, we notice on T.V. that Sacramento and Fresno were even hotter and we presume with at least as much humidity so we'll not complain further. Right now, in early August, we're having cool foggy weather again, but apprehensively count the only several more such spells ahead of us until we get 100-degree weather with 10-20 percent humidities.

Lou Taurman, our hard working conscientious Assistant Construction Inspector, probably would accept a job with Frank Buck about now. Among his many projects upon which he has to be finance officer, job superintendent, personnel manager, payroll officer, front man dealing with the unions, etc., is the Morena CDC Camp job. This, far removed from the San Diego center of population where the Union and all contractors are, is slowing down to a walk. Seems he can't get his doors and cabinets due to lumber strikes up District I way. He did get some windows but many of them have blown out for lack of the doors. Our August 20 completion date is now out the window and the September 1 date is rattling. Anybody got some spare doors? We could then receive the sixty inmates for the worst part of the fire and wind season and too, winter is ahead!

Doug Glenn, District Dispatcher

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Smokey Bear had a big time at the San Diego County exhibit at the County Fair. He was host to 69,000 children of all ages up to and including the tender age of 90 and gave out 39,000 pieces of literature. I think Smokey's helpers enjoyed fire prevention among the young ones of college age.

Lefty Green, ASFR at Julian, has decided to use radio for communications during thunderstorms. The last time he was using the private line during an electrical storm, the thing got hit and Lefty woke up in a corner wondering if anyone caught the number of the truck that ran him down. Lefty says he got a big charge out of that storm but didn't appreciate it.

San Diego County held a driver safety training program on July 20 and 21 which was conducted by Bob Green. All personnel driving CDF equipment attended. If one serious accident is prevented by this training, it will have been well worth the effort.

Lou Baldwin, formerly of Orange County, has taken a promotion in San Diego County to Assistant State Forest Ranger. Lou will head up the prevention staff. Glad to have you with us Lou.

F. A. Anderson
Assistant State Forest Ranger

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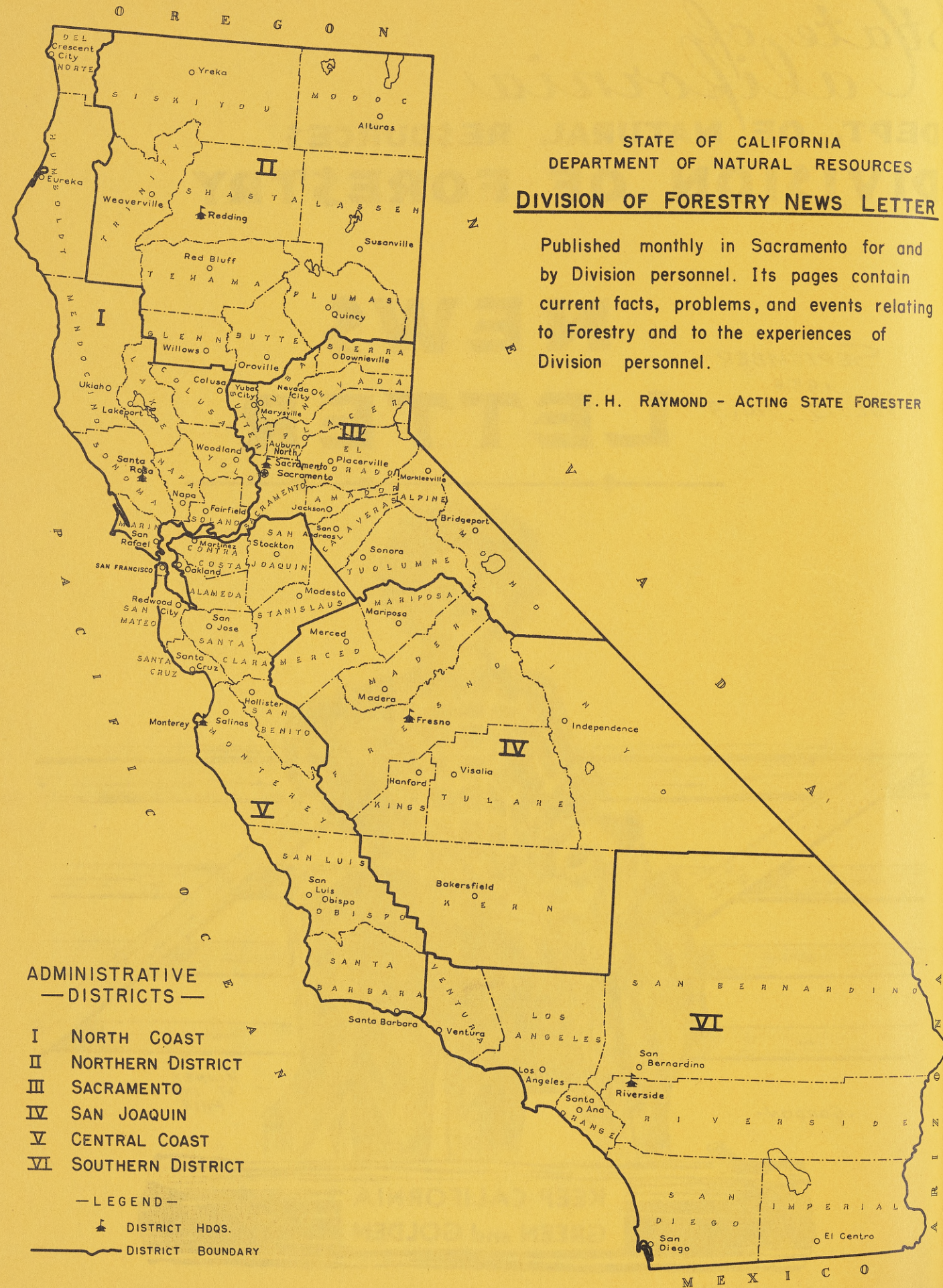
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

SEPTEMBER
1954
VOL. 13 No. 9

NEWS LETTER





AUGUST ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: A break in the weather early in the month brought a welcome relief to the Division's weary fire fighters who had been going strong since the 19th of July.

The burned area score was high for in a period of twelve days; 70,000 acres were lost, much of it timber in Lassen and Sonoma Counties.

The fires and acres burned to August 10 compared to the last five years are as follows:

FOREST FIRES

<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>
1,354	1,298	1,198	1,006	1,138	1,208

ACRES BURNED

Timber	4,480	1,967	6,233	3,564	2,353	10,496
Woodland	-	-	-	-	24,952	14,828
Brush	21,356	41,585	32,491	6,533	33,275	40,355
Grass	18,109	13,231	21,526	15,352	11,536	24,697
Hay-Grass	562	1,217	207	2,125	828	1,651
Total	44,507	58,000	60,451	27,574	72,944	92,027

FOREST & RANGE MANAGEMENT: The prices for planting stock to be sold in 1954-55 season by the State Forest Nurseries were approved at the regular meeting of the State Board of Forestry held in San Diego on August 6, 1954. The annual report for 1953-54 of the State Nurseries was reviewed by the Board at this time. Highlights of this report were presented in the last monthly activity report.

A hearing was held in Sacramento on August 27 regarding state participation in the control of white pine blister rust in California. The hearing was attended by sugar pine landowners, Forest Practice Committee members, and state and federal agencies involved in the program. The purpose of the meeting was to hear and discuss recommendations towards development of policy for continuation of the control of blister rust for later consideration by the Board of Forestry.

Union Lumber Company cut and removed 10,990,501 board feet of redwood and Douglas fir timber from 280 acres of timberland in the Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County this season. This sale was completed in mid August and brought a return to the state of over \$111,000. This sale was logged under a selective system of cutting, harvesting mature and over mature timber leaving sufficient young trees for future crops and seed source. This sale was awarded in October of 1953.

At the request of legislators representing the Ben Lomond area, Forest & Range Management personnel from the Sacramento and Monterey offices participated in an inspection of the area burned by the Newell Creek Fire in Santa Cruz County. Recommendations were made for revegetating the area to reduce erosion hazard during the winter rains and for establishing a permanent vegetative cover. Although this fire burned only 720 acres, it involved property of about 150 owners, including many homes.

Plans were completed for controlled burning and reseedling in the Bressi Range Study Area in San Diego County. The Board of Forestry toured this area during its field trip in San Diego County on August 4 and 5. This is a field-scale project to develop methods of effectively clearing and revegetating brush-covered lands dominated by coastal sagebrush for range forage production. Soil tests have indicated a deficiency of phosphorus for forage growth here, so this element will be provided by fertilization at the time of seeding, a relatively new step in brush range improvement. This study is being carried out in cooperation with the University of California Agricultural Extension Service.

This month an experimental plow tractor and combination backfiring and water trailer were completed and delivered to the field for use and observation.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

YUBA COUNTY

The timber industry in Yuba County recently received a helpful hand from a series of informative articles run by the Appeal-Democrat newspaper of Marysville.

It was well recognized by those connected with the industry that the average citizen of this valley area did not realize the size or importance of the timber industry established in his own back yard.

The articles disclosed that lumbering is the second largest industry in Yuba County and traced the development of the industry from its early beginning over one hundred years ago to the present widespread activities being conducted, both in the mountains and on the valley floor. The articles further described in considerable detail the milling techniques of two of the larger mills within the County and told of the variety of lumber products that come from Yuba County mills. Two articles were devoted to the woods phase of the timber operation. The complicated and delicate subject of roads versus payloads also received considerable coverage. The contribution of the Forest Practice Rules towards a stabilized lumber industry was well covered in one article. All in all, it is felt that the series did much to help the average citizen gain a better understanding of the timber industry and its problems.

H. P. Reinecker
State Forest Ranger

MADERA COUNTY

We read in the papers where "Operation Fire Stop" has moved in to help the USFS on one of their fires in Southern California. Maybe Merced County's representatives, Assistant Ranger Joe Griggs and Foreman Bruce Morrow will get some fire experience this year after all. As of this date Merced County has had five forest fires with a total loss of 1.5 acres. How's that for a record! We still have our fingers crossed, however.

Dispatcher Ed Sackett and Foreman Larry Bullis have taken leaves of absence to go back to school. Both these men are civil service employees and veterans. Bullis intends to major in Forestry.

The Range Improvement program in Madera County has been completed for the 1954 season with some very good results. Eighteen burns cleared 9,320 acres and the local ranchers are very well satisfied. We experienced several escapes

which were handled almost exclusively by the control burn organizations.

Dispatcher McCarty, who is a wee bit on the two hundred-~~ish~~ side has decided to do something about being the biggest dispatcher in Forestry. So far Mac has lost 28 pounds and figures he still has about 28 more to go.

Mrs. Violet Ollie Wilson, Lookout at Red Top, must have heard that old story about the fellow who threw the cigarette out of the window and then tried to step on it. Last week Mrs. Wilson threw a pail of water off the catwalk and forgot to turn loose. Twenty feet below and a couple of minutes later, she awoke to find the only damage was to her dignity.

We are now in the middle of work on our booth at the Madera County Fair. The fair management is putting out a lot of effort on fire prevention this year of itself. There are three main entrances to the grounds and at each of these entrances will be exhibited a large fire prevention sign. One of them is the Division's standard 4' x 8' roadside sign. Another is a cutout Smokey Bear standing 6' tall indicating the burning conditions as recently shown in "Fire Control Notes." Yet another is a 6' U.S. Forest Service type painted Smokey Bear Danger Indicator sign. The fair organization has used several thousand small pieces of material on envelopes, in premium books, etc. and fire prevention slogans will be broadcast at intervals over the public address system.

G.O. Phibbs, State Forest Ranger

FROM DISTRICT IV

District personnel join in expressing condolences to Mrs. C. E. Metcalf in the death of her uncle, Mr. Carl Hoffmann of Owatonna, Minnesota. Mr. Hoffmann was active in civic matters in Owatonna and in recognition of his efforts in the importation of six California Redwoods which were planted in the city park an appreciative citizenry dedicated the park to Mr. Hoffman.

Mt. Metcalf, accompanying Mrs. Metcalf on the trip to Minnesota, stated that on their return trip after passing through Illinois, Missouri, and Iowa, and noting that the areas were parched and dried up by an unprecedented dry spell or were plagued with grasshoppers, arrived home with an even firmer conviction that the State of California, despite our times of "Unusual Weather", is truly a State to be proud of.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

KINGS COUNTY

Associate State Forest Ranger Lindley, is getting along nicely on his crutches. If present plans materialize, Curt could probably be found sitting on a stump somewhere in the Sierras along about September 25th.

Jean T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

"DETAIL" FIRESTOP

Breakfast being at 0530 meant getting up at around 0500 - dark yet - and breakfast was a treat of powdered eggs, scrambled (how else?), dehydrated hash brown spuds: push these aside and eat cereal (dry), toast, coffee, tomato juice and fruit. After first day assignments are usually posted the evening

before.

First assignment was up to operating area via San Mateo canyon where we were supposed to couple quick coupling aluminum CD pipe, not unlike some rain type irrigation pipe. The first problem was to discover some means of uncoupling the pipe after it had been coupled. After I pulled and hauled and twisted a bit I studied the situation and discovered that a circular coil spring in female end lodging against a bulge in the male end of pipe was arresting the progress of exit so I took a screw driver, pushed the spring back and the pipes separated easily.

It was extremely hot so work in the hot sun was intermittent. Anyway, we did couple about 250 lengths of 20' pipe, 6" diameter. We found that on varied terrain, and average conditions, that 3 men could couple an average of 3.6 lengths per minute. (not allowing for rests)

The next day was spent altering a bean pump unit for use to spray chemicals on grass plots, which necessitated trip to Oceanside for parts. This the first half day. In afternoon, accompanied by trainee Emrie, went to operating area and chamise brush section where they had staked out a plot $6\frac{1}{2}' \times 6\frac{1}{2}'$ or one - thousandth's of an acre of chamise brush which we cut at a level 2' from ground and took the cuttings on a canvas to a spot under an oak tree in a shady area and proceeded then to strip the chamise of it's needles which we placed in paper bags. After this was accomplished we pruned all the twigs off that were under $\frac{1}{4}"$ in diameter, which we cut in sizes appropriate to put in paper bags and placed them therein. Then in turn the same treatment was given those sections measuring $\frac{1}{4}"$ to $\frac{1}{2}"$ and then anything over; all these cut into bits about 2" long. This is called "Fuel Volume Study." I understand that the moisture is cooked out and the fuel volume per acre is computed. We also raked up all the ground litter from the plot which also was taken in with the twigs. The remaining 2 feet of standing brush ^{was} pruned off at ground level, before ground litter, and treated the same as first 2 feet.

The next day we progressed to the grass plot area where there were plots of grass about 50 feet square laid out and which we would spray strips from 4' to 10' on the outer and lee sides with chemical mixtures of Polybar or Mono Monium Sulphate of varying strengths and quantities. In the PM we would ignite these plots two at a time with "Fenner grenades" and the air temperature, fuel moisture, humidity etc. would be reckoned and someone would time rate of spread and several cameras, both moving and still, would record pictures of fire being, or not being, retarded at juncture of treated area.

On Thursday we had a meeting at 0700 with the staff where Keith Arnold, the Chief, briefed us on what was being accomplished. After the meeting we again spent the day spraying and burning grass plots.

Friday morning we proceeded to range 102 where we were to burn a buffer strip around an area about 100 acres in size. The buffer strip eventually extended to the middle of the area. The burn was successful and exciting as there were a lot of unaccountable small explosions taking place. About this time the local fire chief came to investigate the smoke and told us to avoid the area due to duds scattered thereabouts. By this time most duds had been eliminated. I believe they were all of small caliber and were blank ammunition.

In the PM we went to an area in San Mateo canyon where there was a lot of rolled brush which we would stack in piles and burn.

You must understand that these operations were by small groups, 4 to 6 men and that similar projects were being carried out by other groups or individuals. Others were on the job keeping records or making records.

Monday - spray and burn grass plots.

Tuesday - staked out 75 ft. plots in sage brush area, two of us, hot work. These plots were then separated by hand lines by Rainbow CDC crews. Also assisted in marking out plots, about 150' square, in scrub oak area.

Wednesday - This was a day of technical work. Had to stake plots that measured 21' x 21', 42' x 42', 63' x 63', two of each and these in turn staked for placement of grenade from 2 in a 21' plot to 36, evenly spaced, in the 63 ft. plot. This made for a lot of walking through brush and a lot of measuring.

FROM DEPUTY STATE FORESTER MORAN

On Saturday, August 21, I put in a hard day working in the yard of our new home--believe it or not. That evening I elected to remain in my old clothes and settled down for a quiet evening at home watching TV. About 8:30 P.M. I answered the doorbell, and lo and behold, I was met by a group of 35 people who had come for a housewarming party.

Obviously surprised, I tried to remain calm and help welcome this gang (excuse the term) from the District Office. After all persons had entered and the food and drinks had been deposited on tables and drainboard, I beat a hasty retreat to the bedroom to don suitable attire for the festive occasion. Most of us talked, danced, imbibed a little, and had a wonderful evening of fun. Along toward milkman time only a few of us were left (this time I had an excuse). Marge served bacon and eggs about this time and the party was over shortly thereafter.

To the several curious persons who asked whether the neighbors were still speaking to us the next day, please rest assured they were quite friendly. We have good neighbors--also considerable space between houses.

We received a beautiful split-leaf philodendron for the house and also a guest book partly filled with observations made by the evening's visitors.

The Morans take this opportunity to thank all the swell Forestry people who so pleasantly surprised us on what would have otherwise been a dull Saturday evening.

Lew Moran

DISTRICT VI

Just migrated South from District I is Jim Whitlock, Ex-foreman, now Trainee. That about evens it up for our loss of Ex-foreman Cy Holmes who now puts a capital T ahead of his name in District I. T. Whitlock, however, had a wee bit of trouble rolling South. Just as he started he discovered he was the custodian of some poliomyelitis bugs, but luckily shook them off after a few weeks' sick leave and has reported for duty.

Dick Groninger, who likes better than anything to construct buildings, is moving from CDC Camp Morena to CDC Camp Oak Glen. He changes places as CDF Supervisor with Harold Rolland.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Foreman Jim Younghusband is the proud father of a baby girl. It's the first girl baby born in the Younghusband family in about 70 years. Ye old reporter thinks there is a young lady who will be plenty spoiled by the kinfolk.

Foreman Hector Reed passed out cigars for a fine new firefighter. Hector has one of each kind now. Helps to keep the balance in the family.

The Board of Forestry held its meeting in San Diego County in August and spent three days here looking over Operation Firestop - Bressi Experimental Range - the firebreak system and other projects in the county. Not much was said for publication but the general feeling persists the CDF is going to go in for bigger and better things in the future.

Frank M. Anderson
Assistant Ranger

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

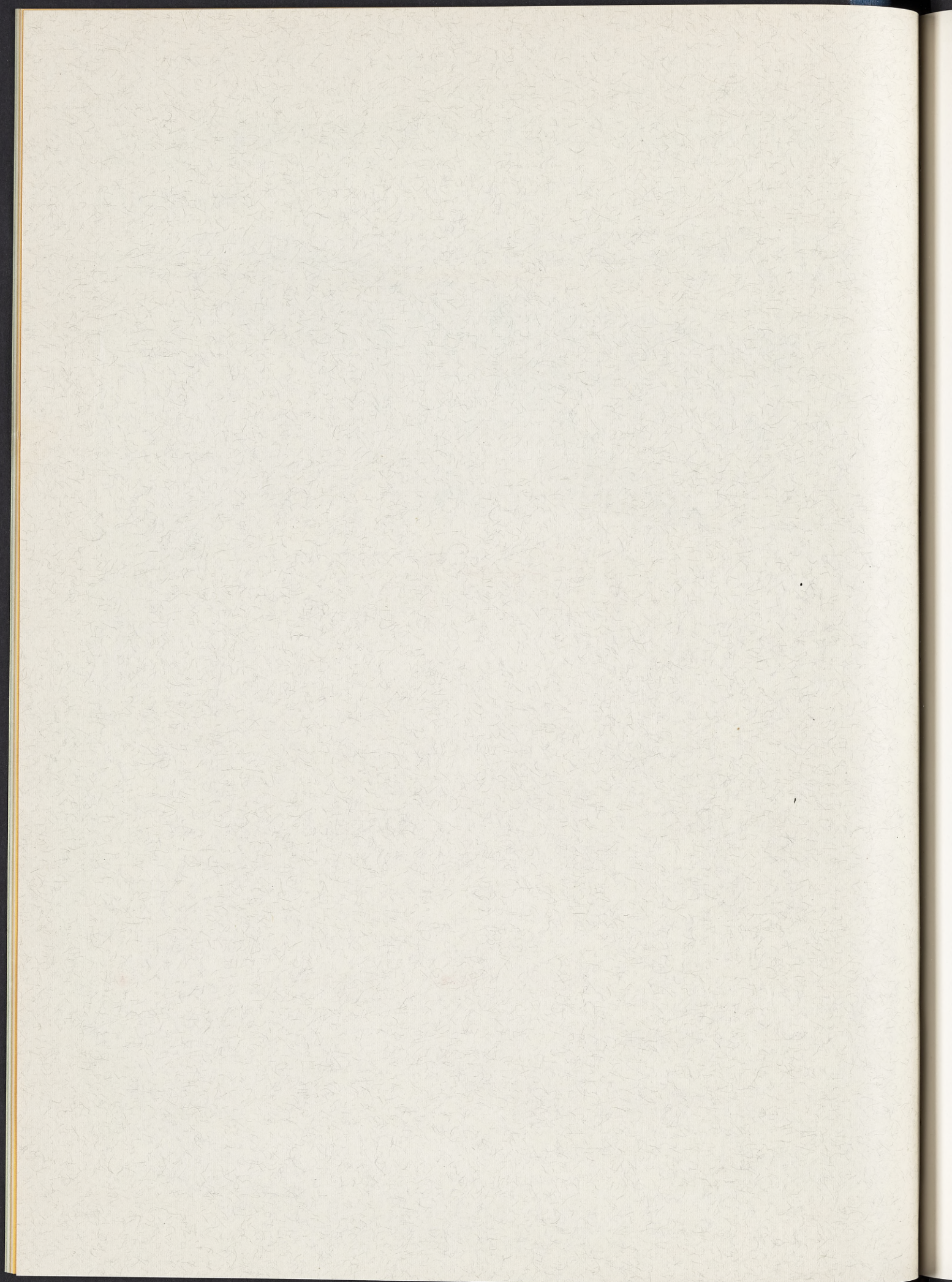


DECEMBER
1954
VOL. 13 NO. 10-11-12

Merry Christmas



GORDON -



No October and November edition of the News Letter was printed because of lack of news items from the field. With this in mind, Assistant Ranger Couste's article below is quite to the point.

FROM ASSISTANT RANGER COUSTE - District IV

This will no doubt be the last issue of the News Letter this year.

After reviewing this year's editions, I find, and am proud, that Kings County is the only one which has contributed every month. I also find that some months there were two pages and a binder with most all the material contributed by Sacramento.

I think that our News Letter was originally planned to be a media through which we could be kept current on all activities of the Division of Forestry and our fellow employees. It is always interesting and educational to read what other counties have been doing and who is participating in these activities.

We haven't heard from some of the counties for so long that we wonder if they still exist.

I seriously think that we should all pledge ourselves to a bigger and better News Letter in "55". A New Years resolution may be in order or we don't care how you do it or how little you write, just write.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from Kings County.

J. T. Couste, Assistant
State Forest Ranger

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Seasonal rainfall in the northern part of the state is considerably behind schedule for October extending the fire season in the northern counties behind the normal expected for this time of year. The entire month of October almost universally throughout the state has seen excessive high winds and low humidities with no immediate relief indicated or rain predicted.

There were several major fires during the month with large acreage losses. Two fires in Monterey County accounted for 8,500 acres lost on state-protected land and 8,000 acres on the Los Padres National Forest. The largest with a total of 13,800 acres took nine days to control and the other four days. A fire in Napa and Solano Counties burned 1,200 acres and another in Napa County burned 400 acres. Division personnel assisted the U. S. Forest Service with a fire near Crestline in San Bernardino County which started on September 25 but was not controlled until the early part of October with 5,200 acres burned over.

State Forests: Division personnel on the Latour State Forest have completed the field work for preparation of next year's timber sale. A gross volume of over 7,000,000 board feet of timber has been marked for selective cutting in 1955. This timber will be advertised for sale and awarded on a competitive bid basis early next spring.

An experiment to determine effectiveness of natural regeneration around seed trees following seedbed preparation by bulldozer combined with rodent poisoning

has been initiated on the Mt. Home State Forest. The pruning of lower branches from vigorous young pine trees to improve the quality of future logs has also been undertaken on an experimental basis on several acres of the forest.

The Casper Lumber Company has completed logging operations on reserve timber on the Jackson State Forest retained by the company during the acquisition of this forest by the State. The removal of Camp 20 has been started.

Forest Practices: More timber operators will register with the State Forester for 1954 than for any previous year. Last year a total of 1,487 applicants registered. By the end of October of this year current registrations were beginning to exceed this figure.

Nursery: During October coniferous seedlings were root pruned and made ready for sale in November at our three State Forest Branch nurseries.

During the past month wide distribution was made of the new State Forest Nursery Price List and Nursery Catalogue in preparation for the coming planting season. State-wide publicity to encourage and promote the sale of trees was arranged with radio, newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals. Public and private organizations and persons known to be interested in reforestation were furnished catalogues and order blanks.

Range Improvement: Permanent sample plots were established on the Backbone Range Study Area in Shasta County to determine conditions of the vegetation before it is disturbed by the activity of clearing, and to make it possible to measure and evaluate changes which occur during treatment.

Progress on the Rescue Range Study in El Dorado County during the past year was reviewed on the ground by range technicians of the Sacramento and District III offices. Plans were made for the work to be done on this study during the next year.

The final report on a study of "Costs and Returns of Controlled Brush Burning for Range Improvement in Northern California" was received from the State Printing Office and is being distributed. This study was a cooperative project between the School of Forestry of the University of California and the California Division of Forestry carried out in response to a resolution of the State Board of Forestry in 1944.

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

Fire Control: Fire season in the five northern districts was declared closed on November 15. Southern California, however, is experiencing fires daily although several light showers have occurred. This being the season for Santana winds, fire dangers can be expected well into the month of December.

Insect Control: The California Forest Pest Control Action Council met in Sacramento to review forest insect and disease conditions in California. The forest insect conditions as revealed by cooperative detection surveys during 1954 were reported by the Division of Forest Insect Research of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. Throughout the State forest insect losses have improved with a few exceptions. On the north coast the Douglas-fir beetle is causing heavy losses in old growth Douglas fir stands. The area covers 200,000 acres and the estimated loss is 100,000,000 board feet. The lodgepole

needleminer infestation of some 46,000 acres around Tenaya Lake and Tuolumne Meadows shows no definite downward trend. Serious damage by the western pine beetle and pine engravers throughout most of the pine belt has declined. Bark beetle losses in Southern California have shown a decided improvement generally, but the California flathead borer in Jeffrey pine continues to exact a heavy toll.

Results of the work on the San Bernardino insect control project in the Arrowhead-Crestline area of San Bernardino County was submitted to the Division by the U. S. Forest Service. The Forest Service was contracted to do the work on private land amongst the San Bernardino National Forest lands in conjunction with control work on federal lands. There were \$5,733.81 of State pest control funds expended to treat 481 infested pine trees. Infested trees were felled, burned, or sprayed with insecticides on 15,840 acres of private land. This project is being continued during this fiscal year.

An infestation of Douglas fir bark beetle on old growth Douglas fir in the northeastern part of Humboldt County was surveyed by helicopter. This was a cooperative project between the Division and the U. S. Forest Service. The cost of the project was \$2,000 of which the State assumed \$600. It is estimated that 54,000 acres are infested. When ground crews finish their survey a determination will be made of the control action to be taken.

The Division was involved in four insect control projects during the 1953-54 fiscal year. A recapitulation of the State costs is as follows:

<u>Project</u>	<u>State Pest Control Funds</u>	<u>Contributed Division Cost</u>
Osborn Hill (Nevada County)		\$1,311.15
Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (San Diego County)		1,584.04
San Jacinto (Riverside County)	\$1,828.73	
San Bernardino (San Bernardino County)	<u>5,733.81</u>	
	\$7,562.54	<u>\$2,895.19</u>

The only projects contemplated at this time for this fiscal year are the San Jacinto and San Bernardino and are estimated to involve \$8,000 of State Pest Control funds.

STATE FORESTS

Some 11,000 ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, and Sierra redwood trees were planted this fall on the Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County by C.D.C. inmates and Division personnel on the Forest. All of these two-year old seedlings were planted on areas in need of reforestation. About 1,000 trees were planted on an acre of land from which the competitive vegetation had been removed by bulldozer. Shading experiments are being conducted on this plot to determine its effect upon reducing mortality. Survival counts will be made of the planting at future intervals to determine the success of the planting.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT

A preliminary compilation of statistics on controlled burning for range improvement indicates 646 burns were completed on 209,986 acres of land during

the season. This is the largest area to be burned during any year since 1945. Some 42,512 acres of this area have been seeded during the fall.

Field studies to determine the present carrying capacity of areas that have been controlled burned during past years have been carried out in Districts I, II, and V. Similar studies were completed in Districts III and VI during 1953. These studies will provide some basis for evaluating the changes in forage production which follow treatment by controlled burning.

Progress has been reported on the field studies dealing with methods of clearing and revegetation in various Districts. Brush was crushed on 40 acres of the Backbone Range Study in Shasta County, in preparation for burning in 1955, after it has thoroughly dried. Data on forage yields were obtained on the Rescue Range Improvement Project in El Dorado County; some reseeding was completed during the last month. Fertilizer was applied to some small plots on the Spring Dell Study in San Benito County; and both fertilizer and seed have been received for the Bressi Ranch Study in San Diego County.

The onset of fall rains brought field work on the Soil-Vegetation Survey virtually to an end in Humboldt and Tehama Counties. Personnel from this project have begun a detailed soil-vegetation survey of the Hopland Field Station of the University of California in Mendocino County. The survey of this Station will develop information on soils representative of large areas of non-timber lands in the North Coast, which will be used by the University in its range research studies.

ENGINEERING

The transport-shop building at Susanville Headquarters in Lassen County has been completed. The Coalinga Fire Control Station in Fresno County has now been completed and the C.D.C. Camp is occupied by the Mt. Home summer crew.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLICATION - FORESTS OF CALIFORNIA, Treasure Chest for the Needs of Man

This publication will be available for public sale in February, 1955. It is the story of the forests of California and the uses to which they are put by man. It is written in a non-technical manner, and will be published as a 6 x 9 inch book, 144 pages, with 98 illustrations, including a photograph of a new relief map of the State of California.

Following is an outline of the contents:

- Chapter I. Forests of California -- Forest Distribution; Ownership; Timber Species; Timber Types; Elevation Zones; Volume of Species.
- Chapter II. The Tree, Its Structure and Growth -- Tree Growth and Reproduction; The Forest--A Community; Inherited Characteristics of Species; Site Factors; Competition and Survival; Forestry and Forest Uses.
- Chapter III. Forests and Water -- Forests Store Water; Forest Influence on Soil Structure; Forests and Water Infiltration.
- Chapter IV. Conservation Is Wise Use -- Timber and Game--Twin Crops; Forage for Livestock; Recreation; Forest Products.

- Chapter V. Harvesting The Timber Crop -- Subdivision of Land; Timber Cruising; Roads All-Important; Marking For Cutting; Logging.
- Chapter VI. Products of the Forest -- Lumber; The Lumber Mill; Manufacturing Forest Products; California Hardwoods; Other Forest Products; Research Goes Ahead.
- Chapter VII. Managing the Forest -- The Goal--Endless Crops of Timber; Problems of Forest Management; The Fire Problem; Destruction by Insects; Forest Diseases; Taxation and Management.
- Chapter VIII. Forestry in Action -- The National Forests; The National Parks; State Government Forestry Activities; State Parks; County Forestry; The Role of Private Interests; The Public Forestry; Forestry as a Profession.

NOTE: New printing policies for the State of California require that this publication be made available on a sale basis only. Cost per copy has not yet been determined, but it is hoped that the price will be less than \$1 per copy.

LETTER FROM ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY, THOMAS L. RODGERS, CHICO STATE COLLEGE

Five times during the past ten years we have conducted a field school for the study of biology at Eagle Lake, Lassen County, California. (You may remember some mention of our school in an article "The Lake That Time Forgot," Colliers, September 3, 1954.)

Prior to the summer of 1953 we taught only biology courses and conducted research. During the summer of 1953 we taught a course in Conservation of Natural Resources. It was highly successful, and we plan to develop it as the main subject of our efforts there in the summer of 1955.

The course turned out to be especially valuable because, within easy field-trip distance of our headquarters on the lake, we could visit many active projects and have them explained by the men who operate them. See accompanying description of course.

In the past, we have never had more than 23 students. However, for next summer we expect to have more living space available and plan to expand our enrollment to 35 or 40.

I am writing to you in the hope that you may be announcing such opportunities for the study of conservation to your membership or the general public in some way and would be willing to tell them about our plans.

With this letter I have included a brief description of our plans for next summer. Additional copies will be mailed to you if you can use them.

NATURE'S LITTLE HELPER

A speaker was giving a talk on forest preservation. "I don't suppose," he said, "that there is a person in this hall who has done a single thing to conserve our timber resources." Silence ruled for several seconds, as the speaker paused, then a meek voice from the rear of the hall retorted: "I once shot a woodpecker."

Motorland - December 1954

ABOUT THE DIVISION

CAT BURGLAR ROBS MOTEL

During the night of September 23 a burglar entered all units of the Travel-lodge Motel in Santa Rosa and relieved the guests of their financial assets while they slumbered.

Among notables stopping at the motel was the eminent timber broker Toiyabe Ankola. When this reporter approached Mr. Aurola for his version of the affair, he, a former ball player proclaimed: "I was robbed!" Mr. Avila later issued further comments on the case and somewhere along the line a rumor popped up that this dastardly deed might have been committed by a local member of the Division of Forestry force. The local office of the Division quickly conducted an investigation in collaboration with local police and this rumor was determined to be absolutely false inasmuch as all local Forestry officers had iron-clad alibis for the night of September 23.

However, in the course of this investigation a new theory was proposed which appears to have considerable merit. It appears that in the past three or four years Mr. Anvola has been instrumental in promulgating increased activities in a cone collection program in the North Coast Area. Your reporter has found out that the bulk of these cones have been collected by seeking out spots where squirrels were cutting the cones and dropping them with an eye to establishing a winter food cache. Before the squirrels could consummate this project the cones were scooped up by eagerly waiting Forestry officers and transported to the Davis nursery.

The theory which has been advanced for the perpetration of the robbery is to the effect that the local union of squirrels appointed a delegation to act with vengeance upon Mr. Achilles. This theory has recently gathered momentum when it was reported on good authority that a squirrel showed up at the Davis nursery with some \$75.00 with which he desired to purchase a pound of seed. Your reporter determined that Technician Adams, in charge of the nursery, recognized that something was a little unusual in this instance and quickly placed a phone call to Mr. Arola at his offices in Sacramento. In the ensuing hubbub the squirrel disappeared and has not been seen since.

Your reporter is happy to announce that Mr. Arkona's financial loss did not go unnoticed by his co-workers in the North Coast District and the response to a request for contributions to a welfare fund was magnificent. Although cash donations were rather limited, many useful articles were contributed.

Your reporter hopes that this article may come to Mr. Alova's attention in the hope that he will not feel too badly about the inhospitable treatment he received, and that he again will see fit to return to our fair city.

The above news item was taken, more or less verbatim, from a local paper of recent date.

FROM DISTRICT II

On November 16th, Deputy State Forester, John Callaghan returned to duty after an extended illness that kept him away from the job for several months.

Herb Kaufner has been busy for several months (in between hunting trips) building a new home, the roof is now on and electrical work started.

Forest Forum, a weekly radio broadcast over KSDA in Redding, has been under way for several months and is being received very well by Shasta County residents.

William Alexander, retired fire prevention officer for District II, will receive his retirement pin from the C.S.E.A. at the dinner and installation of new officers on December 10th. Billie Robinson and John Cross of the Division are to be installed as officers in the local chapter at the dinner.

District II Headquarters' personnel are going to have their Christmas Social (get together) the evening of December 17th. It appears that there will be about a 100% turnout for the party.

We are going to miss Bernice Schumann when she leaves the end of November. Bernice has been working with personnel records, etc. during her stay in the District Office. Sorry to see you leave Bernice.

Signed: Shasta Sam

FROM SISKIYOU COUNTY

Even up here in the far North the fire season persisted into November. A 20-acre grass and brush fire a mile from the Oregon border made life interesting on November 7. But finally in December we are having our 15 degree weather and weekly snow storms.

The prolonged fire season seemed to work mental hardships on at least a couple employees. Of course it could be old age, too.

Ranger Clint Phillips acted as intermediary on a cone collecting project between the Boy Scouts in Siskiyou County and the Davis Nursery. After all cones were supposedly collected and forwarded to the south, the cub back from Hornbrook brought in a couple jars of "pine seeds". Phillips thought it mighty nice of the wee ones to go to the trouble of cleaning the seeds, and without taking a second look, transported the jars to the District Office at Redding. It wasn't long before the sharp eyed technicians questioned the authenticity of the "pine seeds." It was a very fine collection, all right - of choke cherry seeds. Ranger Phillips, a graduate forester from UC, dejectedly headed north to Yreka again, head low, and tail dragging, thoroughly chagrined and mumbling something about, "A Scout is Trustworthy", and "Choke cherry grows mighty tall in Siskiyou County. Makes good timber - I think."

Not long after the above incident we observed Assistant Ranger Herman Hammack ("I kept telling those experts at Camp Pendleton that the only sure way to stop a fire is to run it into the ocean. And so I spent every day lolling on the beach to check my theory") busily completing a few details before going on his annual "Gotta get below 30 days!" vacation. Now during the fire season Herman is more than willing to donate freely of his time to the good of the Division, especially since he is being paid for 24-hour duty at that time. But while the ducks and geese are flying in low circles and are painting bulls-eyes on their wings to aid the wary hunter, a Siskiyouan must devote every non-working hour to the pursuit of the winged creatures. Therefore, it was quite a shock to Herman around 11 A.M. a couple mornings ago when Dispatcher Larry

Kirton coyly suggested, "Say, weren't you supposed to start vacation today"? Ten minutes later Herman was blasting away with his shotgun and complaining, "The State owes me three hours, four ducks, and two geese - *%!!)?*! it!".

And then, on third thought, it could be the Rarefield atmosphere in this high altitude county. Plain stupidity just can't be the answer!

Clint Phillips
State Forest Ranger

NEVADA COUNTY

Associate Ranger Jim Hayes recently returned from two weeks at Operation Firestop. Jim gave an interesting report to the rest of the personnel in the County that couldn't attend, of the work that is being carried on there. Jim worked with the helicopter section and tells of Heli tanker bombing fires with paper sacks of water and laying hose with copters. It is hoped that some of the ideas that come from this work will do away with some of the hard work and time consuming work that is done now to combat fires.

Ranger Don Knowlton was elected President of the Grass Valley-Nevada City Toastmaster's Club, on September 30, 1954, for the winter period of 1954-1955.

Progress has come to the County in seeding of large control burns. A helicopter was brought from Fresno to seed the Clingan burn. 500 acres was seeded with 6,000 lbs. of seed. Cost of the Copter was \$1.50 per acre which is certainly cheaper than it could be done by hand.

The electrification of Wolf Mountain Lookout will be completed this week. CDC crews strung the power line almost a 1/2 mile.

Loren E. Hill
Assistant State Forest Ranger

FROM DISTRICT III HEADQUARTERS

This District received a communication from an adjoining District relative to an operator who was cutting in their district but who was hauling logs to his mill in this district. This letter reads in part:

"-----therefore, in order to keep the lines of confusion straight, we are sending you the inspection report so that you may take what action you deem necessary."

John W. Tomblin
Assistant Deputy State Forester

DISTRICT IV

Polio has again struck in District IV pointing its ugly finger at the wives of Assistant Ranger Norman Nicholson and Foreman Smalley of Mariposa County. According to the last reports, both women are progressing nicely.

We cannot help but take this opportunity, in view of our past experiences, to note the fine work that is being done in the field of Polio Therapy. We therefore urge each and every one of you to not only give, but to take an active part in the solicitation of funds among your fellow employees for the March of Dimes. On the March of Dimes and its success hinges the lives and hopes of thousands of persons receiving treatment that the average person could not hope to pay for in a lifetime--So when the March of Dimes presents its plea again this year, remember--it might be you or one of yours that benefits from that dime.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

KINGS COUNTY

Mrs. Agnes "Mike" Shoemaker our Clerk and Dispatcher for the past four years has resigned to move to San Gabriel to be with her family.

A pot luck dinner was held at the Hanford station in her honor on October 5th. Many of Mike's friends and co-workers were in attendance and a very hearty meal was enjoyed by all. We wish Mike the very best in her future ventures and look forward to her return visits here.

Marie Logan has been appointed to fill Mike's position. Mrs. Logan was formerly with the Kings County Sheriff's Office and County Clerk's Office. We take this opportunity to welcome her to our organization.

J. T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

LETTER TO RANGER BRUCE HUFFORD - MARIPOSA COUNTY

You will recall the Signal Pyrotechnic Company's representative, Chas. Schneider, landed at the airport here in Mariposa on his way to San Francisco to leave some pyrotechnic material and you will also recall that he over-shot the airport and turned over.

I have just received a letter from him and I think the best way for me to transmit that portion of the letter to you is to quote it herewith.

"If you see the Fire Chief or whoever is in charge of the firemen, I'd like you to tell him that I can't praise his men too highly. First, they were on the job within minutes, then they went about their work most efficiently. One of the men opened the windshield to let the accumulated gasoline run out and another cleaned brush away, and another washed the plane and area around it very thoroughly. It was very clear that they knew just what they were about."

Mr. Schneider certainly was very appreciative of the fine cooperation that your boys gave him with reference to his wrecked airplane.

Yours truly,
s/ M. A. Lindsay, Farm Advisor.

A WORD FROM MADERA-MERCED RANGER UNIT

We are wrapping up the fire season for 1954. The kitchens have been shut down in all stations and equipment is being prepared for winter storage or winter use as the case may be. We have completed the review of our winter work program by Assistant Ranger Districts in the company of the District Deputy and members of his staff.

Specifications have been prepared for a replacement fire truck in the county responsibility areas. The truck is to be a cab over engine C-300 Ford unit with a Marmon-Herrington conversion and will carry 500 gallons of water. Bids will very shortly be sent out by the Madera County Purchasing Agent. The new truck will be stationed at the Madera headquarters where it is hoped the presence of a second four-wheel unit will give us more advantage on grain fires in the sand wash areas of the county. Fire fighting in the grain areas of Madera County has always been a problem because of the sand in which conventional trucks are easily stalled. The county is replacing several conventional trucks with four-wheel drives. These will come in future budgets. Cab over engine units are being used to enable truck builders to build units which come near the ideal of 40% of weight on front wheels. A 500 gallon Chrysler Hale auxiliary engine driven pump unit is being generally used as it is the only unit which will do both the jobs of fire fighting in grass, brush, and grain and structural fire fighting and permit purchase within a reasonable price. There are better pumping arrangements for purely grass and grain or for purely structural jobs. We have found the Chrysler-Hale to be very satisfactory for all types of fires we have encountered.

We are happy to welcome Edgar Webb to Madera County as a Dispatcher replacing Ed Sackett who is now on an educational leave. Mr. Webb reported to work at Madera on November 1.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

TULARE COUNTY

Fire activities in Tulare County have been buzzing along as usual with 1158 rural fires and 52 Zone I or II fires to date this year. Our Zone I and II fires for the most part have been small, although we did have two fires that were considered of a major nature in late July and early August. The Elliott fire which started on July 29th burned 2210 acres in extremely rough country, while on August 3rd, the Davis #2 fire started and burned 5900 acres. Considerable amount of grazing land was damaged in the Davis #2 fire. For the most part our rural fires have been routine nuisance fires, vehicle fires, and residence type structures with the normal losses expected.

Purchase has been made, and we expect to take delivery within the next 30 days, of three Model R-136 International Chassis which are proposed to be built into three new fire trucks. These new trucks will replace three of the existing older-type fire trucks which will be retired and disposed of as the County officials see fit.

Work is underway on specifications for the build-up and it is anticipated that the bids will be let within the next 30 days. It is proposed that all three of these fire trucks will have 500-gallon water tanks, and two will

have 500 GPM Chrysler-Hale pump units. On the third unit we propose to have a 500 GPM midship pump and 60 GPM high-pressure booster pump.

During Fire Prevention Week programs were conducted at 25 schools with an attendance of approximately 5,295 children. Programs were conducted before an Adult Group with approximately 179 people in attendance. Schedule "A" Assistant Rangers made inspections and rural contacts in conjunction with the inspections at 150 industrial plants and warehouses. Sixteen special news releases were issued along with two special radio talks. A fire prevention exhibition booth was established at the Terra Bella fire station and was viewed by a number of people in that community. During Fire Prevention Week, approximately 3,000 pieces of fire prevention literature was distributed.

Approximately July 1st a 3,000-gallon semi-water tank equipped with a 300 GPM Darley pump unit was placed in service at our Dinuba station as a water carrier. We have purchased, and are in the process of equipping, a Mack 3,000 gallon semi-tank with the same type of pump and placing it in service at our Lindsay station. We hope to have this accomplished by November 1st. This should give us ample water supply since we have an additional 2500-gallon tanker at our Tulare station along with a 1000-gallon fire truck at Visalia, Pixley, and Doyle Colony stations.

At the present time we are planning intensive training program for Schedule "A" personnel and volunteer groups during the coming fall and winter periods. It is our plan to make an intensive effort to the end that all volunteers and Schedule "A" employees will be wholly educated in all phases of fighting structural fires as well as the use of ladders, ladder safety belts, contained masks, and other items affecting the safety of individuals suppressing fires.

On July 1st we established a new fire station to serve a community of Three Rivers which is located within Zone 1. This unit is set up primarily for the purpose of suppressing structural fires; however, it is available for any fire which might exist in the area. The new fire station at Tipton was completed and occupied October 1st.

The County of Tulare is proposing to add relief quarters to the new stations at Richgrove and Earlimart. These two stations were completed last year. The new Assistant Ranger residence at Badger was recently completed and Willard R. Haley is now occupying the residence.

Two new Dispatchers have been added to our force since July 1st: William A. Shafer, formerly a foreman in Yuba County, and Frank Lewis, formerly a foreman in Santa Cruz County. This increases our dispatching force to four men.

The County has made a replacement of the maintenance foreman's pick up with a 1954 3/4-ton Ford pick up. Assistant Ranger Richard Miralles, who is now on Operation Firestop, is the proud possessor of a 1954 Chevrolet 1/2-ton pickup which replaced his old obsolete vehicle which has been transferred to Davis.

Orval Schonher, Dispatcher

As of November 15th Tulare County went on its winter manpower allotment. Mrs. Norma Loveless, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, after being on leave of absence several months, resigned. She has been replaced on a permanent basis by Mrs. Josephine Laraneta, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, who has been working in Mrs. Loveless' position during her absence. Foreman Ollie Thomas, who has been holding down Porterville station while Assistant Ranger Miralles was down south on Operation Firestop, recently had a heart attack. He is confined to the hospital but is coming along as well as can be expected. All Schedule "B" personnel have been catching up on CTO this past month, and have started taking vacations in several instances. Several Tulare County employees took the recent Assistant State Forest Ranger and Forestry Work Project Supervisor examination in Fresno. Our new Dispatcher, Frank Lewis, who was a forest fire fighter foreman in Santa Cruz County before taking the recent appointment, is beginning to get established in his new position. This is the first winter period that the CYA will not be stationed in Tulare County; consequently, we are very happy to welcome the four additional foreman positions that will be assigned to Tulare County this winter.

Henry Arnold
Associate Ranger

FRESNO COUNTY

Friends and neighbors of Mr. & Mrs. Lee Slinkard had, on December 3, 1954, a surprise potluck dinner party at Dunlap honoring Lee Slinkard who just recently retired from the California Division of Forestry after twelve years of service with this department as an Assistant State Forest Ranger. Prior experience being with the Sequoia National Forest.

The attendance was 109 and those present signed a guest register. For this occasion there were Forestry employees who had associated with Lee during his later years of employment and numerous ranchers reminisced about early-day occurrences prior to 1910. This was indeed a surprise for Lee. His two brothers, Ray and Earl, were present as members of their family. The group presented to his wife, Jessie, a necklace and earrings, and to Lee a Model 94, Winchester Rifle and two boxes of shells.

One of the most satisfying statements made by Lee to the group was that he was indeed honored for the appreciation being shown to him for a job which he considered was well done to the benefit of all people in that area. To us in Forestry, it is indeed a pleasure to have such an employee as Mr. Lee Slinkard, whereby ranchers and friends feel that we have accomplished something for them and publicly put on such a party to honor an employee, and especially Mr. Slinkard who has retired.

Wm. Pennington
State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT VI

Some people get all the breaks---news and otherwise. Riverside's Associate Ranger Ray Banks recently hit our news heavily for his fast advancements, now he does it again with a pretty little Mary Ann Banks. The Mrs. and young one did fine but we heard that dad got D-rash or something.

It may be that California Division of Forestry can hit headlines elsewhere but we have not found it easy here. In a corrective effort, we have changed the names of our CDC crews as far as the press and radio are concerned. Hereafter, they will be "State Fireline Crews."

These crews have been somewhat busy lately, along with our regular personnel. In quick succession, we burned 6,000 acres in the inaccessible Los Coyotes Indian Reservation (four hours walk-in) and then 5,200 in the San Bernardino Forest just above our common boundary. We used 250 Navy men and eleven out-of-District on the first and then moved the eleven on to the second fire between San Bernardino City and 5,000 feet high Crestline resort. This fire and four ahead of it on recent weekends, all near the High Gear highway, are tainted with more than just mere suspicion. "Sleuth" Norman Harris is busy! The City is laying plans for seeding. Just might rain more than once this winter in which case the seeds might grow and hold back a few million tons of mud and rock.

Assistant Ranger Charles Van Fleet recently received a 25-year Service Award from the State for service and recognition from local leaders of Riverside County for his long service, both as a member of Forestry and as a San Jacinto citizen. Charley has served as Acting Ranger of the County in the past but loves his corner of Riverside too. His friends are numerous as the summer leaves of the valley Cottonwoods. Congratulations for your deserved recognition!

Doug Glen, Dispatcher

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

On the afternoon of Monday, August 30, the first major campaign fire in Riverside County started on the Ortega Highway west of Elsinore. Control lines were not completed until the following Saturday, September 4, with a total acreage loss of 6,700 acres.

Most of the fire was on the U.S. Forest Service with complete State cooperation and 1160 acres of the fire burned on state-protected land. During the days of the week mentioned there was really no need for anyone to elbow and shove their way to the front because there was plenty of fire for everybody (Sven says).

Sunnymead Fire Control Station site has been selected and bids will soon go out for the construction of the new station-residence. The old station will be razed to make way for freeway construction on Highway 60.

On Thursday and Friday, September 16 and 17, Associate and Assistant Rangers, along with other personnel from District VI, were given Jack Burke's "Number One" conducted tour of Operation Firestop. Those of us who had not previously seen the operation were impressed by the magnitude of the operation and the effort and study contributed by all concerned. We would like to know, though, how mass fire storms can be predicted from these studies and hope that someone can come up with the right answer.

This would prevent men from being caught in blow-ups similar to the one that occurred in the Leach canyon area of the Jamison fire on the evening of August 31. In that particular instance totally unpredicted winds up to 40 miles per hour suddenly sprang from a dead calm and sent the previously quiet fireline into a raging inferno that jumped an 11-blade wide bulldozer firebreak with the

ease of striking a match.

All the boys' sporting blood turned to vinegar on that fracas.

Raymond H. Banks
Associate Ranger

RAINBOW CDC CAMP

The intent of this article is to pass on a little information I have learned from experience and from an article called, "Breathe Easier," written by Captain W. P. Knowles. It should interest anyone in the field who does any hiking.

What makes you breathe hard when you hike up a hill? The answer is, the oxygen is being burned up faster than you can inhale fresh oxygen. How can you get enough oxygen to offset the amount used? The answer is simple, but takes a little practice. When you hike, you should stand up straight, keeping your shoulders back. Doing this frees the whole abdominal region of unnecessary weight and pressure. You will find that in order to stand straight while you hike, you must take short steps, especially on a steep hill. This holds true, but you will find that with short steps and controlled breathing you can hike any hill without stopping and without losing your breath. Controlled breathing is the most important factor. Keep your breathing in rhythm with your steps. Inhale evenly with three steps, then exhale evenly with three steps. Keep your mouth open when you breathe taking full easy breaths but breathe in rhythm with your steps. This is important. Try this way of hiking faithfully for three or four times and you will be amazed at the ease with which you can hike a hill.

You might ask, "What is second wind"? Second wind means that at a certain point you unconsciously assessed your increased needs and countered the faster accumulation of carbon dioxide by a deeper and steadier intake of oxygen. In other words, you unconsciously breathe deeper and more rhythmically and get the proper amount of oxygen to sustain you.

Breath control has several other advantages that can be of help to us.

Getting warm: When you are on a fireline at night and the cold starts seeping through you, try this. Inhale and exhale through the nostrils rapidly at first, then slowly. Quick short breathing for thirty seconds, then slow and full breathing for thirty seconds. Repeat several times and you should glow with warmth.

Tenseness: When you are about to make a speech and you feel tense or afraid, stop and do this. Place your shoulder blades as nearly together as you can without strain, then breathe out gently and fully. Pause, then inhale with a deep, slow, gentle breath until the lungs are comfortably filled. Breathe out slowly through the nose with a long sigh and without altering the position of the shoulder blades. Do this a dozen times and you will feel relieved and relaxed.

If at any time you do breathe hard, try panting like a dog for several seconds then take three good deep breaths, then pant like a dog for several seconds more and take three more good deep breaths, then breathe normal.

Breathing comes natural, but under unnatural circumstances knowing how to breathe helps. Try it.

E. R. Brown, Forestry Work Project Foreman

Note by Forestry Work Project Supervisor C. A. Brown, Rainbow CDC Camp: "This works--I've known and practiced this for several years."

OPERATION FIRESTOP FIELD WORK TERMINATES

On October 29th, according to schedule, all personnel and equipment were released from Camp Pendleton and all buildings were turned over to the Marine Corps. Final services were held in the "church" (Staff N.C.O. Club) on the preceeding evening with the "Reverend" Roy Graham officiating. Needless to say, the Division of Forestry members of the "congregation" will most certainly be missed by the hospitable "Jar-heads" who operate and frequent this little club.

Aside from the memories of the recreational activities that will undoubtedly exist, there will, of course, be countless unforgettable moments which were enjoyed (?) by all the field personnel who had a part in Firestop. True, the Marine chow had its ups and downs; for those of you who are curious the chow really picked up - "just after you left for home!" Anyway, no one ever had such ice cream rations before. Here we remove our hats to San Diego FEO Tex Lambert who consistently tried to make the stuff run out of his ears. And then there was Craig Chandler of the Forest Service who could often be seen nonchalantly sneaking out of the chow hall with a small stakeside load of leftovers in his arms for his faithful dog "Sprig."

Speaking of Sprig - being a pup, he apparently wasn't housebroken, leastwise not warehouse broken at any rate. Some of the "occupational hazards" that dog deposited in the big building really kept our boys on their toes!

Not too much has been said to date regarding the Operation. Naturally, those of us who helped out feel it has been a success; a number of new methods of fire suppression were found to be very effective as well as highly adaptable for our use. The final report, probably to be released next spring, will provide complete information on all the various tests and their results. Some of the most outstanding experiments are as follows:

1. Comparison of the small 2-passenger 'copter vs the larger military type as applied to fire control work.
2. The development of a portable 100 gallon tank and small pump which can be lowered - complete with water, hose and 2-men - all in one operation, from a single 'copter.
3. Developing the technique of effectively laying 1000 feet of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch lightweight hose from a 'copter in a matter of a few seconds.
4. The use of plastic water bags for dive-bombing spot fires from helicopters.
5. Dropping larger volumes of free-falling, uncontained water from conventional aircraft.

6. Studying the effects of various chemicals for retarding or accelerating vegetation fires.

Several pieces of new equipment were studied and tested such as a trailer mounted wind machine, a new long-range fog nozzle, and several miles of the new Civil Defense portable aluminum pipe. This pipe was used for water supply purposes and accordingly passed quite a severe test in view of the terrain involved.

A large volume of information was obtained in respect to fire behavior, weather, and vegetative studies. Of the latter, a considerable amount of effort was devoted to securing data for the fuel moisture and fuel volume analysis. Men assigned to the fuel volume crew usually reacted as though they were being shipped to Devil's Island, or at least they figured they were on someone's "list." Most of this feeling resulted from the tedious hours spent plucking leaves and twigs from brush clumps more than from the ruthless direction of this activity by "Dr." George Stanford - Shasta County Driver. The fuel volume crew was considered to be the Boot Camp of Firestop.

On behalf of Dr. Keith Arnold and his entire staff the writer would like to express appreciation to all the Division personnel who helped Operation Firestop succeed. Unfortunately, adequate space is unavailable herein to thank each man individually for a job well done. However, because of the outstanding manner in which they directed the field operations the writer would like particularly to express his gratitude to Assistant Rangers Jim Springer of Butte County and Dick Miralles of Tulare County.

An extra "thank you" note is in order for the last crews who put Firestop in the mothballs - the last month, October, was rough. (At this point the effects from the harassing task of dismantling began to show on some of our men; it was during this period that Dick Miralles was affectionately (?) being called "Captain Queeg"!)

Pfc. J. D. Burke, USMCR*

*I'm being held as a hostage until the Provost Marshal finds out who set the 120 acre fire only a block from the Firestop barracks within a matter of minutes after the five northern crews pulled out!! Please advise.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY NEWS

A little late to be mentioning it perhaps, but members of the Division of Forestry throughout the State will be saddened by the news that Maile Marvel, wife of G. D. Marvel, who has left the Division, has passed away. We will remember her gay spirit which helped to brighten the off duty hours of many of us during the previous years while the CDF was growing up.

San Diego County employees also join in mourning with FFD Phillip Leo and Jerry Tipton whose mothers also passed away recently.

Happenings in a happier vein in San Diego County include a fine new crop of babies. Must be the water. Foreman Neil Chaffee reports a new baby boy. Lookout Lee Wyatt has the same good news. FFD Bob Burkhart has a bouncing baby girl. Fire fighter Duane Lange has a new baby boy. All young ones were packaged properly and delivered in good health. The fathers are back on the

job and appear to have weathered the ordeal in good shape.

Ranger Jim Fenlon was host to about 600 people for several days in the San Ysidro Mountains near Warners. Acreage was 5,925, including 250 acres of timber, which is a serious loss to San Diego County in a recreational sense. Meals were served buffet style and sleeping accommodations were of a primitive nature. Members of the Division from many parts of the State attended by invitation. Emmett Donohue was a little anti-social at this gathering and set up a hermit camp near Palm Canyon. Had to be supplied by air drops. E. R. didn't come out until the other guests had departed. All in all, it was a tough proposition with little opportunity for mechanical aid and had to be done the hard way. Fire was wrapped up in good time though and indicates members of the Division haven't forgotten how to walk and bend their backs on a tough job.

Frank M. Anderson
Assistant Ranger

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

"A tree grows in Riverside County", says Technician Sischo. While cruising an insect infested forested area near Hemet Lake (Idyllwild area), Paul found a 72 inch DBH Jeffrey. Guess it was just too big to succumb to either axe or flame these many years or maybe the old timers left it as a seed tree!

Fire suppression goes ahead down here. Morena CDC Camp opened for business with twenty inmates. For lack of completed floor, the other forty inmates are still shuffling around at the Chino Prison Farm. If we just had a little more tape, we could have dyed it brown and finished the floor long ago. The weather, although tinged with Santana conditions, has not been too bad. We've even had a couple inches of rain in between 15% humidity spells.

If you drive by our County Headquarters for San Bernardino don't be surprised at the youthful looking crews on the fire trucks. They are not state employees, they're city school children. Conservation studies are bringing them to Headquarters in batches of up to one hundred at times. Seriously, the 9000 acres of loose dark (burned over) soil and rocks just above the city (some burned in 1953, some in 1954) can be given a lot of reason for attention to conservation by the schools. Much of the area has been reseeded but the little sprouts are still insignificant to the threat.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

Congratulations are now in order for two long-time Riverside foremen who just left the ranks of the "marriage isn't for me" bachelor set. The lovely brides of Foremen Marlin Boucher and John Pfeifer are sincerely welcomed into the Forestry family.

With the advance of freeways into Riverside County, bids were let and ground broken for a new Schedule "A" Sunnymead Fire Control Station. The old (nearly new) station will be razed as it straddles the route for Freeway Highway 60 between Riverside and Beaumont. Unfortunately, the landscaping efforts put in on the original station built in 1948 have just reached the attractive stage but nevertheless, time and freeways march on.

Raymond H. Banks, Associate State Forest Ranger

ORANGE COUNTY

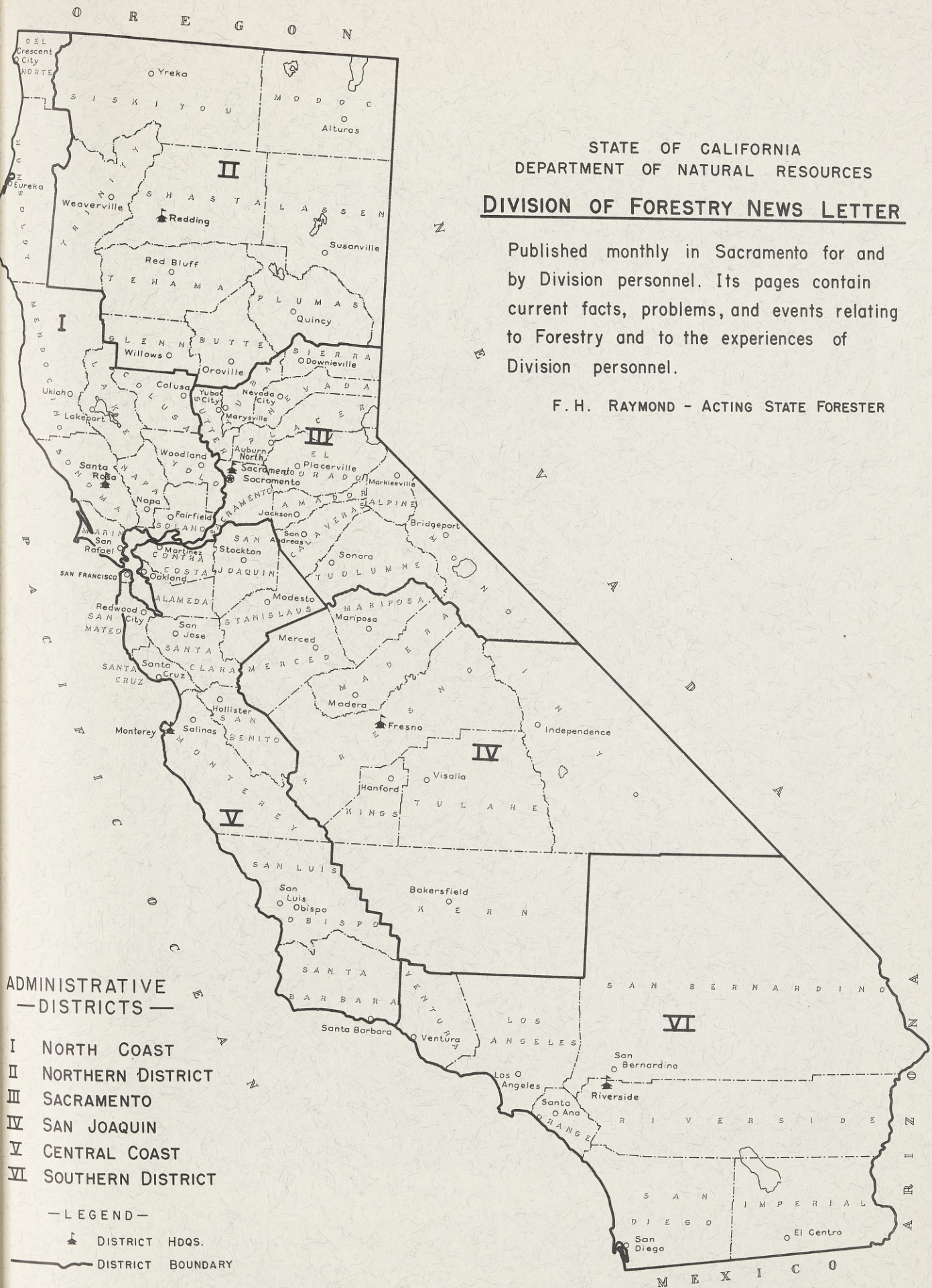
We were advised by wire that Harry J. Collentz passed away on October 15, 1954, in Seattle, Washington. "Shorty", as Harry was known by his fellow workers, retired from State Service on November 30, 1953; he was the remaining Civil Service Forest Fire Fighter employed in Orange County. "Shorty" began his Forestry career in 1943 and had held the position of Forest Fire Fighter Foreman for a period of time. He had many friends within the Division, and it was with deep regret that we learned of his passing.

J. A. Scherman
State Forest Ranger

NEW ARRIVAL IN FIRE PREVENTION SECTION

A new recruit for "Smokey" Bear arrived December 19 at the home of our Fire Prevent'n. Deputy Bill Fairbank in the person of a nine pound baby boy. Mother, Betty, doing well; Papa, Bill, still confused; Raleigh Taylor playing grandpa.

"SMOKEY" says: "MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR."



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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

ADMINISTRATIVE
—DISTRICTS—

- I NORTH COAST
- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

—LEGEND—

- DISTRICT HDQS.
- DISTRICT BOUNDARY

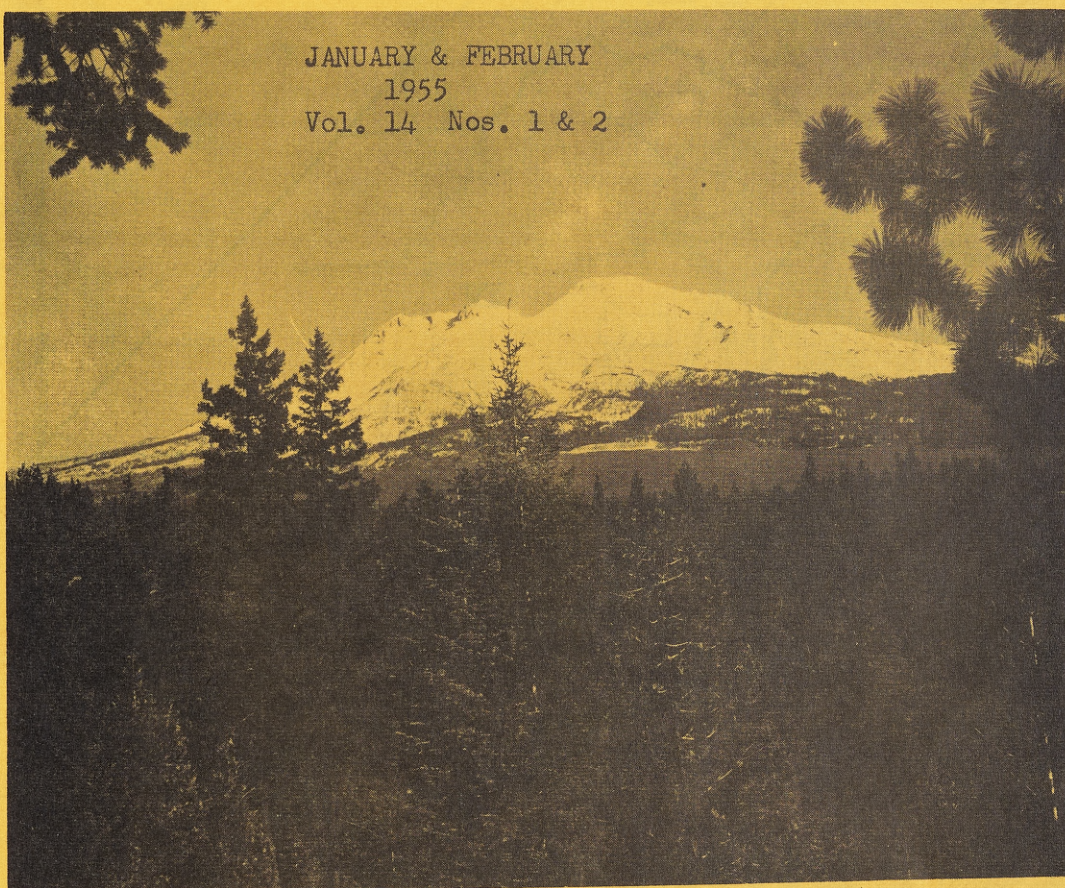
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DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

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Vol. 14 Nos. 1 & 2



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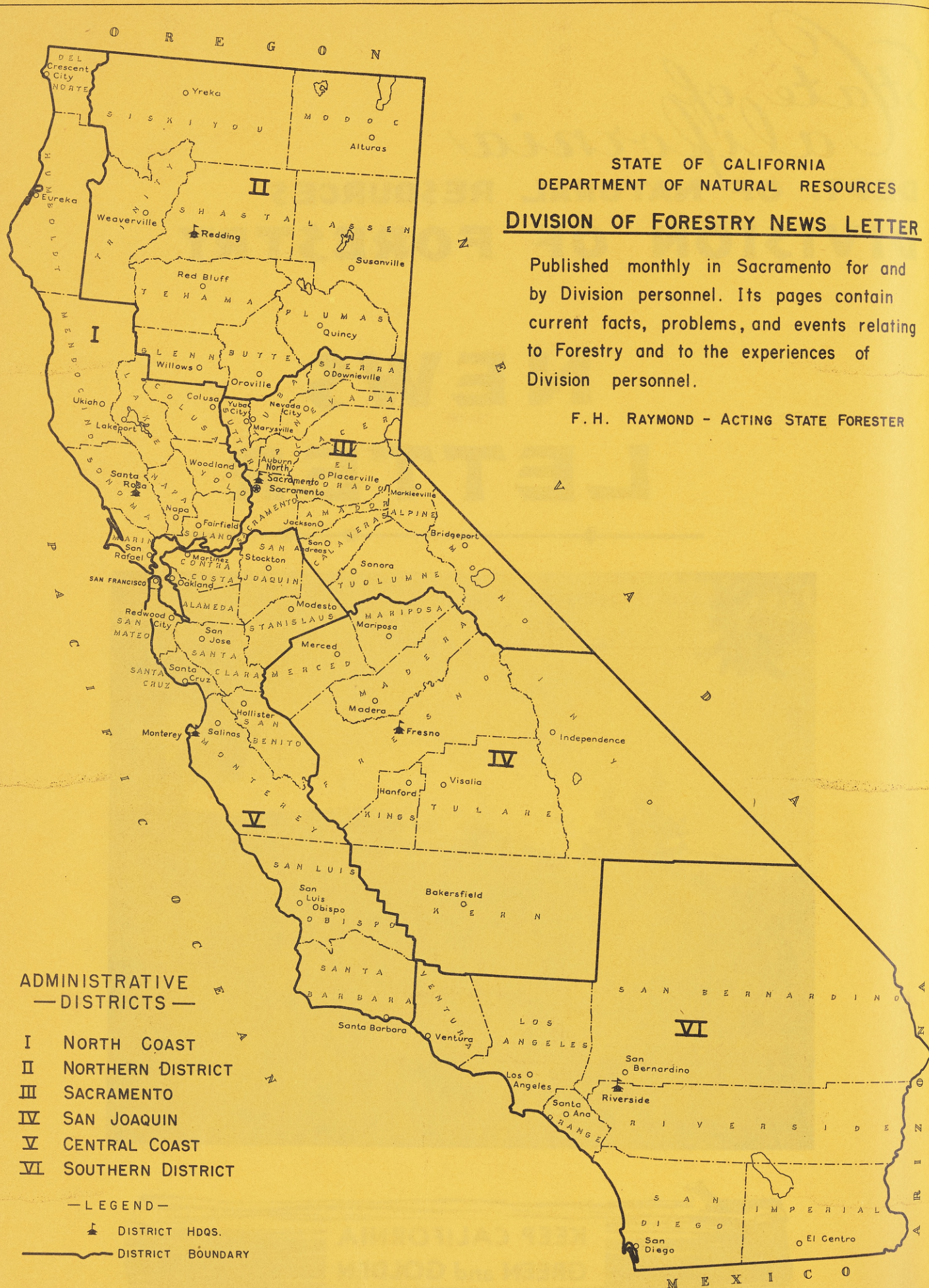
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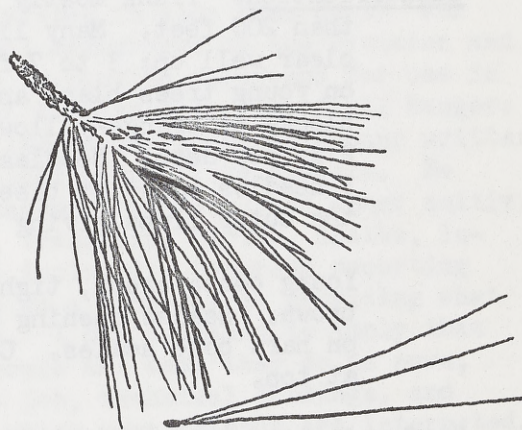
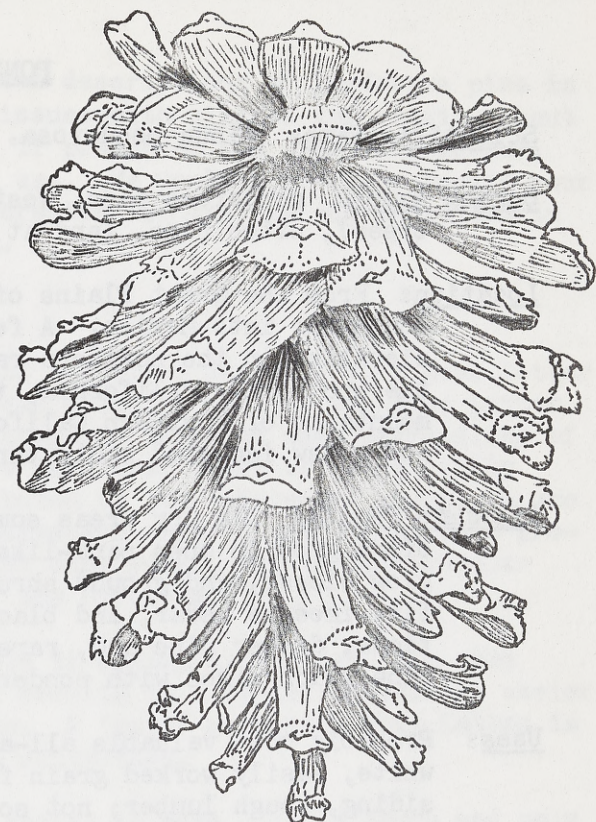
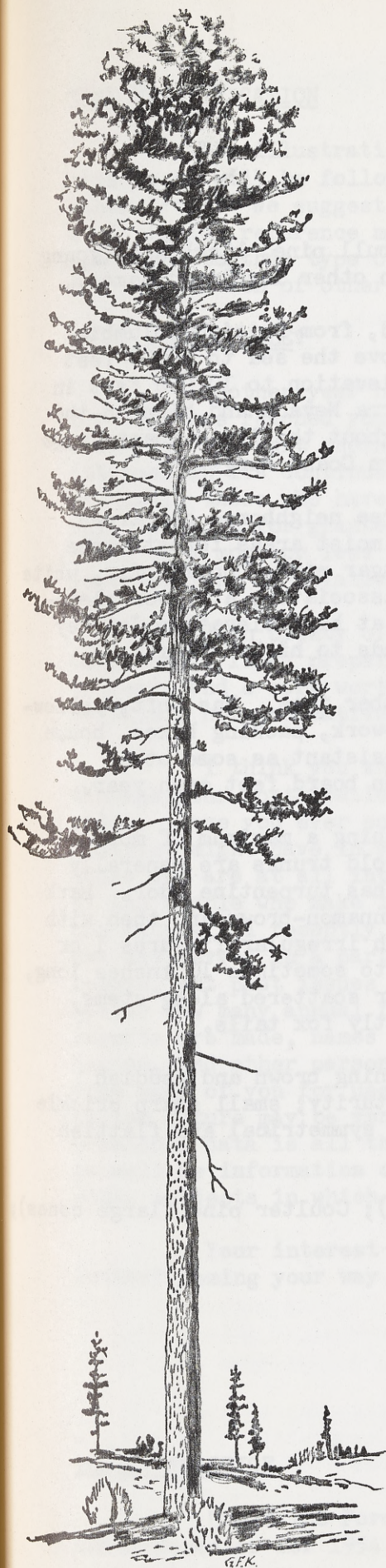
- I NORTH COAST
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- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

— LEGEND —

▲ DISTRICT HDQS.

— DISTRICT BOUNDARY





PONDEROSA PINE

PONDEROSA PINE

Scientific Name: *Pinus ponderosa*.

Common Names: ponderosa pine, western yellow pine, bull pine, blackjack (young trees), pitch pine, (and at least a half dozen other localized names).

Locations: From the Great Plains of Nebraska westward, from British Columbia south far into Mexico. A few hundred feet above the sea to 5,000 feet elevation in the northern range; 5,000 feet elevation to 10,000 feet in the south. In California, throughout the Sierra Nevada and high on the mountains of Southern California, south throughout the Inner Coast Range and a few isolated spots throughout the western Coast Range.

Associate Species: In dry areas sometimes no other tree neighbors; old trees often grow in open park-like stands. In more moist areas forest trees grow closer, and ground shrubs are common. Sugar pine, Douglas fir, white fir, incense cedar, and black oak are common associates; at lower elevations, digger pine and, rarely, Coulter pine; at high elevation Jeffrey pine which mixes with ponderosa and then extends to higher elevations.

Uses: Probably most valuable all-around American lumber tree. Has soft, yellow-white, easily worked grain for cabinets, mill-work, packing boxes, house siding, rough lumber; not so strong nor rot-resistant as some other species. California harvests about one billion board feet each year.

Identification: Trunk mostly straight and tall, reaching a maximum of more than 200 feet. Many limbs on young trees but old trunks are generally clear well up; 3 to 7 feet in diameter. Bark has turpentine odor. Bark on young trees black and crinkled, becoming cinnamon-brown and then with blocks of orange-yellow plates in maturity with irregular fissures 1 or 2 inches deep. Needles a deep yellow-green 5 to sometimes 10 inches long, 3 needles bound at base; growing in clusters or scattered along stems, the outer limbs giving impression of many bristly fox tails.

Young cones erect, tight and bright green, turning brown and reddish brown. Scales opening and cone drooping in maturity; small sharp prickles on hard cone scales. Cone 3 to 6 inches long, symmetrical and flattish at top.

Confused with: Jeffrey pine (bark has pineapple odor); Coulter pine (large cones); digger pine (large cones, long grey needles).

TREE IDENTIFICATION

The illustrations and short written descriptions of Ponderosa pine in this issue will be followed in subsequent issues with similar information about other trees. We suggest that these pages, if preserved and stapled together, will provide reference material for future use. We would appreciate having your reactions to this type of material and information so that we may be guided in the preparation of other items of interest.

IS IT WORTH WHILE?

Another year has rolled around and the first issue of your News Letter for 1955 has reached you. It sometimes seems doubtful whether the News Letter will live to start another New Year even though we have had many expressions of interest in its continued existence. There have been those who were highly critical, those who have faithfully contributed to its existence, and those who have taken it for granted. Somehow in a haphazard sort of way it has been prepared on a more or less regular schedule for many years, but through regular contributions of relatively few members of the Division.

When plenty of items are available it naturally follows that more interest in final preparation is shown and results in a better appearing, easier to read, and a more worth while publication. A "puny" appearing News Letter is certainly not indicative of other Division activities.

I think you know the point I am trying to make - it is yours and only through your contributions of printable materials can it continue and be of any value. Have you ever considered the interest your friends in another county or district might have in you and in Division activities in your home port? For those who are at all interested in the historical background of the Division and of the people who make it tick, here is a place to provide reference for use in the future. I recently was assigned the task of finding a record of all Rangers who had served in a particular county. It was impossible to find through written record, but past issues of the News Letter supplied part of the answers. No matter how many annual fire reports, forest management reports, and other activity reports are made, names of persons, promotions, transfers, births, deaths, injuries, and other personnel information are not included. Generous reporting from each of you for use in the News Letter can go a long way in providing what in the future may be very important information. I don't intend to imply that personnel data is all that is important, but people and what they do is news, as well as information on better ways to do the job, technical findings, and other subjects in which you are engaged and in which your friends are interested.

Your interest and occasional donations of time will keep the "News Letter" coming your way with definite justification for its existence.

Raleigh A. Taylor
Fire Prevention Officer

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

FOREST PRACTICE

Under the Forest Practice Act more timber operators registered with the State Forester for 1954 than for any previous year. In 1954, 1,599 Timber

Operator's Permits were issued as compared to 1,487 for 1953.

These timber operators in applying for 1954 registration reported a record harvest of 5.99 billion board feet of timber in California during 1953. This compares favorably with a recent preliminary report by the Federal Bureau of Census announcing the 1953 cut of lumber by California sawmills as 5.12 billion board feet.

An alternate plan for Mr. E. T. Cunningham of Mariposa was approved by the State Board of Forestry in San Francisco on December 6, 1954. This plan permits a deviation from the local Forest Practice Rules with respect to cutting small trees so that Mr. Cunningham can carry on a timber stand improvement project on the area designated to improve forest growth.

CHRISTMAS TREES

Christmas tree imports by truck into California in 1954 amounted to 725,284 trees. This is some 20,000 trees less than what was reported the previous year. Douglas fir was the leading species, followed by white and red fir, and other species. This information was compiled by the Division of Forestry from data collected at our request by State Department of Agriculture quarantine stations. The Doris Border Station reported the highest number of trees. Desert stations like Blythe, Yermo, Parker, ~~Packway~~ Daggett, and even Fort Yuma reported truck shipments of trees. Truck imports originated in many of the western states, and from as far away as British Columbia and Montana. This information will receive further analysis by the Extension Forester at the University of California along with data collected regarding rail shipments.

Christmas tree utilization was higher in California in 1954 than for the past several years according to a preliminary review of information collected by Division personnel prior to Christmas. Indications are that 93 per cent of the trees marketed in California were sold as compared with 77 per cent for 1953. This higher degree of utilization, we believe, was due in part to the fact that fewer trees were brought to market in 1954. Adverse weather and snow conditions closed the high elevation harvesting areas early this past season.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT

Range Improvement personnel in the Division's South Coastal area (District V) collaborated with representatives of the U. S. Forest Service and the Soil Conservation Service in evaluation of possible erosion and flood hazards on lands burned by the San Clemente and Devil fires in Monterey County and in preparation of a report substantiating a request for federal funds for reseeding portions of the burned areas.

Division of Forestry personnel are assisting in preparation of an exhibit by the California Section of the American Society of Range Management, for the national meeting in San Jose. This exhibit will include monoliths showing profiles of some range and forest soils of California, as well as other material pertaining to the cooperative Soil-Vegetation Survey now in progress.

In Shasta County (District II) additional progress was made on the Backbone Range Study. Ground control has been obtained for preparation of a topographic map, and about one-half of the brush clearing has been completed.

During the month of December all District Range Technicians compiled information which will be used in making a thorough study of controlled burn escapes,

and their relationships to weather conditions.

FIRE CONTROL

The 1954 fire season for the Division of Forestry came to an official close with the closure of fire season in Southern California on December 15. However, on December 27 gale winds blowing in from the desert through the Cajon Pass of San Bernardino County toppled a power line starting a fire in Cable Canyon near Devore and in the San Bernardino National Forest. This fire which burned several structures and threatened communities in the Devore area was controlled on December 30 after burning 3,500 acres, 500 acres being upon State protected lands.

Control efforts upon this fire were made difficult due to strong winds and below freezing nighttime temperatures which froze water in the fire pumps and hose lines.

A preliminary estimate of the 1954 fire season on lands protected by the Division indicates small increases in incidence and acreage burned over the 1953 fire season, but with both incidence and acreage burned below the 1949-53 average. (The Division protects about one-half the wild-land area in California, the U. S. Forest Service protects the other one-half.) These figures include only those fires occurring on lands protected by the Division of Forestry.

	<u>Zone 1 and 2 Forest Fires</u>	
	<u>Incidence</u>	<u>Acreage Burned</u>
1954 (Est.)	2,119	129,161
1953	2,080	125,150
1949-53 average	2,278	166,025

One of the outstanding features of the 1954 fire season was the lack of thunderstorms and lightning activity. Only 66 lightning fires were reported in 1954 as compared with 148 in 1953 and a 1949-53 average of 207.

Man-caused forest fires in 1954 numbered 2,053 which is an increase of 6.3% over the 1932 fires of 1953 but is still under the 1949-53 average of 2,070.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT

Purchase orders were issued for the following truck chassis: 18 - International R-160 four-wheel drive, 2 - Ford F-750 conventional drive.

Requests for bid to build the 10 Ford F-750's into four-man fire trucks were initiated. With the exception of 4 pickups, all automotive units in the 54-55 F.Y. budget have been requisitioned.

Study continued on the Division's automotive maintenance and repair program.

Davis Sale #17 disposed of 42 pieces of automotive equipment which were no longer usable by the State.

Nine new pickups and sedans were transferred to the field after being equipped with lights and sirens at Davis. One large TD18A bulldozer was also delivered to District V.

Alterations and modifications were made to two trucks in preparation for using the units as pilot models during the construction of new apparatus.

Usable sirens and lights were removed from vehicles being offered for sale, were reconditioned and placed in stock for installation on new vehicles.

ENGINEERING

Preliminary plans for the High Rock Honor Camp in Humboldt County have been submitted by Division of Architecture to Division of Forestry for review.

The transport shed at Susanville Headquarters in Lassen County has been completed.

Plans are scheduled for completion by February 4, 1955, for construction of the Mt. Bullion C.Y.A. Camp in Mariposa County, and it is hoped that construction can be started soon thereafter.

Construction has been started on Sunol Fire Control Station in Alameda County. This construction consists of a combination barracks-messhall and storage building in one unit.

MERIT AWARDS

The Governor has written a letter to directors of departments asking that they give their personal attention to stimulating interest in the employee suggestion plan at all levels of employment within the department.

The Governor in his letter has said in part:

"In these days of billion dollars plus budgets it is easy to ignore small savings. Large savings are but the sum total of a number of smaller ones. It is these smaller savings that reflect the individual employee's efforts to increase the efficiency of state government and reduce taxes. During my term of office I will continue to emphasize the necessity of securing the cooperation of each employee toward this goal. There is no better way to achieve this end than through the use of the Employee Suggestion Plan as it affords all our personnel a real opportunity to participate in the daily operations of our state government. It also gives to each employee a sense of being a member of the team and it is this team spirit that assures the administration of your department or agency will be a successful one."

The Director of Natural Resources has appealed to the Division Chiefs to give this matter wide-spread publicity stressing in our letter that all supervisors at every level encourage the employees under their supervision to submit suggestions. All supervisors should adopt a sympathetic attitude to the plan and help and encourage their fellow employees.

This is the beginning of a new year. We would like to exceed in 1955 the output of suggestions over that of 1954.

Will you please call this matter to the attention of all your supervisors.

F. H. Raymond, Chief Deputy State Forester

FIRE WHIRLWINDS - SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

On December 29 the Northern California Section of the Society of American Foresters co-sponsored with the American Meteorological Society a discussion on "Fire Weather Problems and Objective Forecasting", at the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Berkeley. Howard E. Graham, U. S. Weather Bureau, Portland, Oregon, gave a very interesting paper on cause of fire whirlwinds and where they are most apt to occur. The following is quoted from his conclusions:

"Because of the direct relationship between fire whirlwind occurrence and combustion heat, the meteorologist can predict likely areas of occurrence only if he is familiar both with the attendant meteorological and topographic conditions and the occurrence of heavy fuel concentrations. The forester with his intimate knowledge of areas under his management will usually be more able to predict combustion heat over a given area.

"Fire whirlwinds seem to develop more readily on lee slopes close to ridge tops. It is suggested that this is favored by pressure deficiencies resulting from flow over an abruptly terminating airfoil. The wind velocity above the ridge top thus becomes an important factor in determining the likelihood and magnitude of a whirlwind.

"We may conclude that the most favorable condition for fire whirlwind occurrence is over a hot fire near the top of a steep lee slope with strong winds over the ridge top. Fire whirlwinds are frequently characterized by destructive violence. Therefore, when any fire, large or small, quiet or running, is on a lee slope, the fire fighters should consider the danger of fire whirlwind formation."

In view of the frequency of fire blow-ups and the potential disaster that can occur under such conditions, this information is most timely. It is also of value in managing control burns on range improvement projects.

DeWitt Nelson, Director
Department of Natural Resources

"SONG OF THE SKY"

For those who would like to absorb a fascinating lesson in meteorology, world climatology, and the long history and modern principles of navigation, we recommend Book-of-the Month Club selection "Song of the Sky." It was written by Guy Murchie, former student, seaman, war correspondent, and aerial navigator across both the Pacific and Atlantic.

Aside from the example of fine and unusual writing, every forester and fire fighter should find in the book a great number of facts which should be of interest and value in his own work. But there will certainly be many readers who will refuse to take off from "the bottom of the sky" and soar aloft with the author in what the book jacket refers to as "a unique combination of scientific fact and poetic figure revealing the story of man's newest element, the air."

C. R. Clar

CONTEST WINNER

Mike Schori, Associate Ranger in the Sacramento Office was the winner of a contest, with a guess of 26.26 pounds pull necessary to separate the tube from the jacket of the fire hose which was on display at the Western Forestry Conference held in San Francisco in December by Quaker Pioneer Rubber Mills. Mike received a small prize as a reward for the closeness of his guess.

COMMUNITY FOREST

California's first community forest was established in Arcata following a proposal by the chairman of the Arcata Redwood Circle of the Redwood Region Conservation Council. The area comprises 600 acres owned by the city. It will be managed by a three-man commission accountable to the City Council which established the community forest, and will be used for educational purposes, watershed, recreation, and other city benefits.

Humboldt Times 12-17-54

FORESTER MOVES TO MISSOULA, MONTANA

Transfer and promotion of Emil H. Juntunen from the Regional staff of the Forest Service to his new post as Chief of the Division of State and Private Forestry for the Northern Region of the Forest Service at Missoula, Montana was announced today by Clare Hendee, Regional Forester in San Francisco. Mr. Juntunen will take over his new duties effective February 1.

Juntunen served as assistant in the Division of State and Private Forestry in the California Region from 1951 to the present. Prior to this he had served in a variety of forest jobs in the Lake States Region after earning a B.S. degree in Forestry at Michigan State College.

News Release - U.S.F.S.

January 25, 1955

NATURE'S LITTLE HELPER

A speaker was giving a talk on forest preservation.

"I don't suppose," he said, "that there is a person in this hall who has done a single thing to conserve our timber resources."

Silence ruled for several seconds, as the speaker paused, then a meek voice from the rear of the hall retorted:

"I once shot a woodpecker."

ABOUT THE DIVISION

RANGER CAMPBELL RECEIVES 25-YEAR SERVICE AWARD

At the annual post-fire season gathering of Mendocino County personnel and their guests, Ranger Charles P. Campbell was presented with the 25-Year Service Certificate and pin by Deputy State Forester C. W. Fairbank.

Ranger Campbell's service with the Division of Forestry, dating back to 1929, was reviewed and highlights of his career and places of assignments were summarized. Charlie's wide experience has varied from Siskiyou County on the north to San Diego on the south, with other assignments in Shasta, Tehama, Madera, and Mendocino Counties, plus special assignments in Sacramento during the war years and in Los Angeles in connection with the labor camp program.

C. W. Fairbank
Deputy State Forester

YUBA HAS NUMBER ONE COOK!

We knew we had an excellent cook in our midst in the person of Mrs. Irene Royat of Dobbins but it required a recent letter which the Personnel Board wrote her to point out that her reemployment status is not only No. 1 in Yuba County and No. 1 in District III but also No. 1 state-wide. Although this classification is in terms of seniority we are sure there are hundreds of fire crew members and official visitors who recall her tasty meals and prefer to think the No. 1 term is more descriptive of her skill in the kitchen.

Another personnel subject possibly worthy of mention is the fact Yuba County ended its 1954 fire season with all Civil Service fire truck drivers - five of them! We cannot remember when we haven't had at least one TAU driver at the final wind-up. It was made possible partly by the return of two drivers from military service - Don Bullard and George Meyer, each having completed four years in the Air Force. We were pleased to welcome them back. The other three drivers resulted from the continuous testing system which has now been discontinued. We believe the plan had some real merit and would like to know (via News Letter discussion) what other counties thought of it.

Well drilling at our new site for the Loma Rica Fire Control Station was completed on December 2nd with a sufficient flow of water being developed. In January we expect to begin preparing for construction of the station.

It's a little GREENER out Smartville way these days - ever since January 3rd when Assistant Ranger Ralph and Sally Green very delightedly added little Cynthia Susanne Green to their growing family. Also welcoming the new-comer are a brother and four sisters, in recognition of which the Greens are meeting the transportation problem with a 1955 Ford Ranch Wagon. Construction of a new residence at the Smartville Station is slated for 1955 - and none too soon, eh, Ralph?

We would like to refer briefly to Assistant Ranger Couste's remarks in the December issue, with which we are heartily in agreement. The failure of some counties to contribute to the News Letter is regrettable and probably due more to neglect rather than lack of newsworthy material. We firmly believe a more healthy situation exists throughout the Division when we learn something through the News Letter rather than the "grapevine". Hey, you SILENT ONES! If you don't think you have anything to write about tell us what you think of the maintenance refund check system.

Vernon E. Cassell
Forest Fire Dispatcher

FORMER DIVISION EMPLOYEE RETIRES

It was my privilege to represent the Division at a retirement party extended Burnett Sanford by personnel of the National Park Service in San Francisco Wednesday, December 15th. I was asked to make a few brief remarks regarding Sandy's tour of duty with our Division.

I pointed out that the Sanford Plan would always be history in the Division and it might some day again be the basis for allocation of Division funds, along with the Fire Plan. I also told of the fact that I worked under Sandy in the northern coast district and apparently he was tired of trying to teach me something for very shortly thereafter he resigned and I took his place.

Sandy will long be remembered by many in the Division for his faithful service to the Division and for his untiring efforts, along with those of the late fire control office of Region 5, USFS, Jefferson, in bringing about a closer relationship between the National Park Service, U. S. Forest Service, and the California Division of Forestry.

A poem was written by a fellow employee, Hazel Thomson, about Sandy which really describes Sandy as all of us know and respect him. With her permission we are including this as part of this article. I know that all of us in the Division join with the National Park Service wishing Sandy and his good wife June many years of happiness ahead.

SANDY

Oh, the good oldtimers leave, one by one,
And now, we are losing this son-of-a-gun,
A man of distinction, with silver hair,
Likes his liquor good and women fair.
Not his liquor fair and women good,
A man of taste - that's understood.

His work for years has been the tree
From fire and blister rust keeping it free,
He has lived with summer all his life,
Or ever since he took June to wife.
He raises sweetpeas and also hell,
A gin fizz at breakfast, suits him well.
Sometimes all day with a rose he'll putter
The next thing you know, he's found in the gutter.

He's very good with a hand of cards,
In fact, he's good with his hands at large
What I'm trying to say, he's good with his hands
And very clever with maps and plans.

Rich in experience, wise in tradition
He's added luster to his position,
A man who has never used half measures
In his work or in his pleasures,
Bull of the woods and fire fighter,
Brilliant, charming, fun-inciter,
It's not hard to make predictions
About one of his addictions.

I predict he'll always be happy,
Always keep busy, always look snappy
Ever ready to stand a treat,
Oh, he's a jolly good fellow to meet
And since he's fun-loving and devil-may care,
Let's bid him goodbye with a rollicking air.
"What the hell!" "What the hell!" Let's all be gay,
With a song let's speed him on his way.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

TULARE COUNTY

There have been numerous changes in Tulare County personnel since our last item in the News Letter, so here it is.

We welcome to our ranks Frank B. Lewis, former foreman from Santa Cruz County, as our fourth dispatcher. Our Schedule "B" Associate "Hank" Arnold has taken over the Schedule "A" Associate position and has been replaced by John Rosar who was promoted from Assistant Ranger from Coalinga, Fresno County. Mrs. Norma Loveless, Intermediate-Stenographer Clerk resigned to add another member to their family, and has been replaced on a permanent basis by Mrs. Josephine Laraneta.

All of the friends and associates of Foreman Ollie Thomas wish him a speedy recovery from his recent heart attack.

Three of our Schedule "B" Assistant Rangers have received new Chevrolet pickups and Foreman Halstead received a new Ford Pickup for his Schedule "A" work. Associate Ranger Arnold just received his new 1955 Chevrolet sedan to go with his new Schedule "A" position. (Looks as tho everyone has new car-itis).

A new 3000 gallon tanker has been put into service at our Lindsay Station bringing the total to six tankers in Tulare County with a combined carrying capacity of 11,500 gallons.

Our employees are now catching up on their CTO and vacation after getting through another fire season. With the coming holidays everyone wants to get off. (Who's got problems?). Dispatcher Orv Schonher just returned from a four-week vacation in South and Central America looking sun-tanned and happy. (Who shouldn't get married?)

Here's hoping we're able to get something into the future issues.

Bill Mann, Ranger

KINGS COUNTY

A new fire station was put into operation on December 1st, in the community of Armona, Clarence Allen being the driver. Dale McDonald a new employee has been hired as relief driver for the Armona and Halls Corner Stations.

Two residences have been completed at Kettleman City and the Roberts and Maloney's have both moved in. These men, as well as other drivers who worked on these

buildings are to be praised for their tireless efforts and fine workmanship.

J. T. Couste,
Assistant State Forest Ranger

MORE FROM KINGS COUNTY

Fire truck driver Joe C. Barros, who has been spending the majority of his time on construction of fire stations, has been granted a leave of absence to construct county warehouses for other departments. This is a promotion for Joe and could very well work into a steady position. We wish Joe the best of luck in his new venture.

Associate Ranger Lindley is very anxiously awaiting a release from his doctor so that he can return to work.

J. T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT IV HEADQUARTERS

For years we have sung the praises of our rough and tough engineers, both in civilian and military circles.

The engineer's deeds of daring have been his badge of office as much as his muddy boots and staged trousers. But we have indisputable evidence that this last bulwark of our rough past is crumbling before the advance of science, and soon the engineer will be but a mere man like you and I.

We base our prediction on a report by Deputy State Forester Metcalf, who states that while inspecting the new Mt. Bullion CYA Camp Site with the District Engineer on a recent frosty morning, he noted his engineer companion visibly shivering and holding his hands tightly clasped around an object about the size of a tobacco can. Discreet questioning disclosed that our engineer is the proud possessor of one of the new chemical hand warmers! -- Gosh, the next thing we know, engineers will wear cotton shirts and drive clean automobiles, much as you and I.

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

MADERA COUNTY

We are now in that time of the year when considerable time is spent on group training in various subjects. Recently we were able to send all our forest fire fighter foremen and our forestry equipment operators to the Miramonte Department of Corrections shops where they were given on-the-job training by mechanics Harry Ramsden and Henry Beuscher in the fine points of that part of automotive equipment maintenance which we can accomplish at our individual stations. Such jobs as brake adjustments, spark plug gap settings, and wheel bearing packing were actually done by the men. A Marmon-Herrington front end was taken apart, serviced and assembled. We are hoping that training such as this will take some of the load from our regular mechanics, save mileage all the way around and actually help us maintain a higher standard of upkeep as pertains to automotive equipment. The following men attended the school: Foreman Jack Wilcher, Rancheria; Foreman Dick Whiteside, Ahwahnee; Foreman Don Casaurang, Raymond; Foreman Roy Hudson, Madera;

Foreman Bruce Morrow, Los Banos; and Foreman Ed Wright of Gustine. Forestry Equipment Operators Tom Peabody of Madera and Percy Elam of Los Banos were the operators in attendance. These men form the hard core of leadership of our fire control personnel in the summertime and this training should help them in over-seeing and training the seasonal men.

Assistant Ranger Al Kessler who is in charge of Schedule "A" activities in the Ranger Unit was in attendance at a structural training session put on by the State Department of Education for the Chowchilla City Fire Department. A number of Rural Volunteers from the Chowchilla area also attended this school. These rural men regularly fight fire as crews for the Madera County Schedule "A" trucks. The Rural Volunteers put on an annual dinner for members, their families, and friends each year, this one being on the evening of January 29th.

To somewhat illustrate the work of our Schedule "A" organization and the feeling of appreciation of the public generally, we are sending in the following letter for publication in the News Letter. There is nothing better than putting credit where it is due. Incidentally, the "lading" the gentleman is thanking Kessler for saving was pickles. It all adds up to "public service" however, which is our job.

The letter also illustrates mutual aid and general cooperation in that the LeGrand truck is a Merced County Fire Department unit.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

LETTER FROM REEDER LUMBER COMPANY TO
TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

"This letter is intended to express my thanks and appreciation for your part in providing such excellent fire protection to unincorporated Tulare County, (under the direction of the California Division of Forestry).

My experience with the County Fire Department has demonstrated to me that the unit is well-managed and well-equipped. This type of business is hazardous, as we all know, so far as loss from fire is concerned. In three years I have had two fire losses where the damage was held to a minimum due to the fire service and performance of the responding Tulare County Fire units!

/s/ Howard Reeder

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Here in Santa Clara County nearly all of our personnel are now busy on the completion of our new Stevens Creek Fire Control Station, under the leadership of Dick Repsher and Frank Weatherford. On a recent visit to that project I found that our summer fire control foremen and drivers have been turned into painters, carpenters, cement finishers, etc. From all reports they are certainly doing an excellent job of construction. They have progressed very rapidly and the station should be completed shortly. A lot of credit should also be given to our cook, Ethel Urban, who has set up kitchen there in a canvas tent and is really putting out some good meals. Incidentally, she can make good pies and cookies, too.

Work has already begun at the site of our new Coyote Fire Control Station. The actual construction of the building will begin in the early spring.

The American Society of Range Management has selected the "Hospitality City" of San Jose as the location of its 8th annual meeting, from January 25 through 28, 1955. Helping on the Arrangement Committee are Ranger Britton, Tom Honeycutt, Rocky Savage, Bill Reed, and George Ryder.

The State Board of Forestry also held its meeting in San Jose at the Civic Auditorium on January 27, 1955.

On January 20 we wished three of our "prospective" Assistant Rangers the best of luck and saw them off to San Francisco to take their oral examination. They were Jim Rasmussen, George Ryder, and Warren Shaw. On January 21 Glenn Snyder took his oral for a deferred Assistant Ranger examination. We hope they were successful and are way up there on the list.

A baby shower was given recently for Mrs. Sam Garza at the residence of Mrs. George Britton, with Mrs. Jack Skeels and Mrs. George Ryder as her assistants. The Garzas are expecting a girl (?) very shortly. Hope she arrives soon - we're all getting pretty anxious around here.

Donald Pick, truck driver, reports another proud addition to his family - a girl - in December. Just in time to include her in his income tax exemptions!

Incidentally, our Ranger's favorite dog, Minnie, presented him with a litter of eight little puppies for Christmas. But much to Minnie's regret, two of them passed away shortly after they were born.

We are sorry to report that two of our former employees, Frank Sutter, Jr., as fire fighter; and William Jurian, Jr., truck driver on Military Leave; were killed in a tragic automobile accident during the New Year's holidays. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the families of these two boys.

Dorothy Magioncalda
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

In commemoration of the memories of two Forest Fire Fighter Foremen, Riverside County staff announces the sudden deaths of Edward E. Hannum and Michael L. Flaherty.

Mike Flaherty passed away October 21, 1954, at the Hemet Community Hospital. He was 77 years old and had been retired from state service as a forest fire fighter foreman for seven years. Mike had been a C.D.F. Foreman since 1940, prior to which time he had been active as a fire warden in the Sage and Anza area since the early days. With Mike's passing, we also felt the passing of an era in forest fire-fighting in which Mike, as an old old-timer, had an active part.

Edward E. Hannum passed away January 2, 1955, at the age of 50 years. He was an active member of the Riverside County Ranger unit up until he was taken ill, several months ago. Ed first came to work for the Division of Forestry in 1945, and through the years he became highly respected and sincerely liked by all of us who worked with him. When the going was rough, we always had Ed's Irish smile and keen sense of humor to lighten the burden at hand.

Everyone in the Forestry family who knew or associated with these men will deeply miss their presence and will always remember them for their loyalty,

sincerity, and devotion to duty, which many times was above and beyond that normally required. We take this moment when the feeling of loss is so acute to pay tribute to all of those men throughout the state who have served so faithfully and well, and whose memories will always be honored.

Raymond H. Banks
Associate State Forest Ranger

CDC CAMP OAK GLEN

Have you ever been denied taking a Civil Service examination because you are lacking education? Then you might find this information useful.

As we have found out, some the hard way, the Civil Service Board has rejected applications which lack certain educational qualifications. Experience alone seems to be not enough.

For instance on the recent Assistant Rangers examination, applicants who lacked a high school education were disqualified completely. In this particular examination four years of college was necessary to qualify, but experience could be supplemented for education on a year for year basis up to four years. So to qualify an applicant had to have a high school education plus four years college or four years experience in addition to two more years experience. So that high school diploma is becoming a very important piece of paper. The man without it is in pretty sad shape.

But wait, there is a solution. The Department of Adult Education to the rescue. There are two answers to the problem. One is night school. This would detail you to attend regular classes at your local high school or college during the evening. You would only have to take those subjects which you lack towards a diploma. The other is taking courses through correspondence, with the approval of the high school from which you wish to graduate.

Here is the procedure. Obtain a copy of your school records from the school you last attended. Take this to the high school from which you wish to graduate and they will outline a course of study for you. If you are unable to attend night school, then you would probably be allowed to take the lacking subjects through correspondence. Either way you can get a diploma and believe me it's worth the time and effort.

For those interested in subjects for self improvement you can obtain a catalogue of courses offered by the University of California by writing to, University of California, Extension Service, Department of Correspondence, Berkeley 4, California. They offer courses in high school and college subjects and they have a very wide selection. The average cost of the courses is \$10 to \$15. They are worth it.

Practically every college in the nation have some courses offered in correspondence, so if you can't find what you want from California, write to Mr. W. S. Bittner, Secretary, National University Extension Association, Bloomington, Indiana. State what type of course you would like and they will let you know from what college you might obtain it.

Courses in range improvement, fire control, logging and general forestry are offered at many colleges.

Act now, then when that exam comes up next time you will be prepared.

Harry Harp
Forest Fire Fighter Foreman
CDC Camp Oak Glen

DISTRICT VI

Fire season officially ended December 15, after we had received a couple half-inch rains in the prior two weeks, and according to plan, men poured outward on vacation. However, Ole' Man Weather had his own plans and immediately blew warm dry air for a week into our brush areas. It let up a little for Christmas weekend and then really turned on the fans the 27th. Just a repetition of a year ago...only difference was that the winds started one day earlier this year, only blew 40-60 instead of 60-80 and we had only one campaign fire instead of two. This one enlarged the burned area lying immediately above the city of San Bernardino and our County Headquarters from an already denuded 9,500 acres, up to 13,000 acres. The mustard and rye grass is now becoming significant on the 9,500, but the new threat plus plenty of the old, the Supervisors are asking for immediate Federal help to channel away the runoff.

After seven years of watchful waiting, District VI now has a "foot in the door" of its new headquarters. The contractor has started putting in foundation forms. He has seven more months to go of his allotted eight.

We heartily endorse Assistant Ranger Couste's request for more news from round the State. This District Headquarters has hit about every edition for two years now although our personnel news has usually been a little skimpy. Now we have cultivated our contacts and come up with these little gems of knowledge:

Retreads (old CDF hands) returning to District VI Forestry are: George Snyder, former driver for San Bernardino County, returns after a few years on Uncle's steel decks. He now drives in Riverside County. Jack Sherman, the old Pro of both CDF and then USFS around Riverside County, is now piloting fire trucks in San Bernardino County.

From District IV comes George Barnhill. He hit Morena CDC Camp as a Project Foreman. Incidentally, the newly completed camp now has fifty inmates.

Douglas M. Glenn
Dispatcher

*State of
California*

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NEWS LETTER

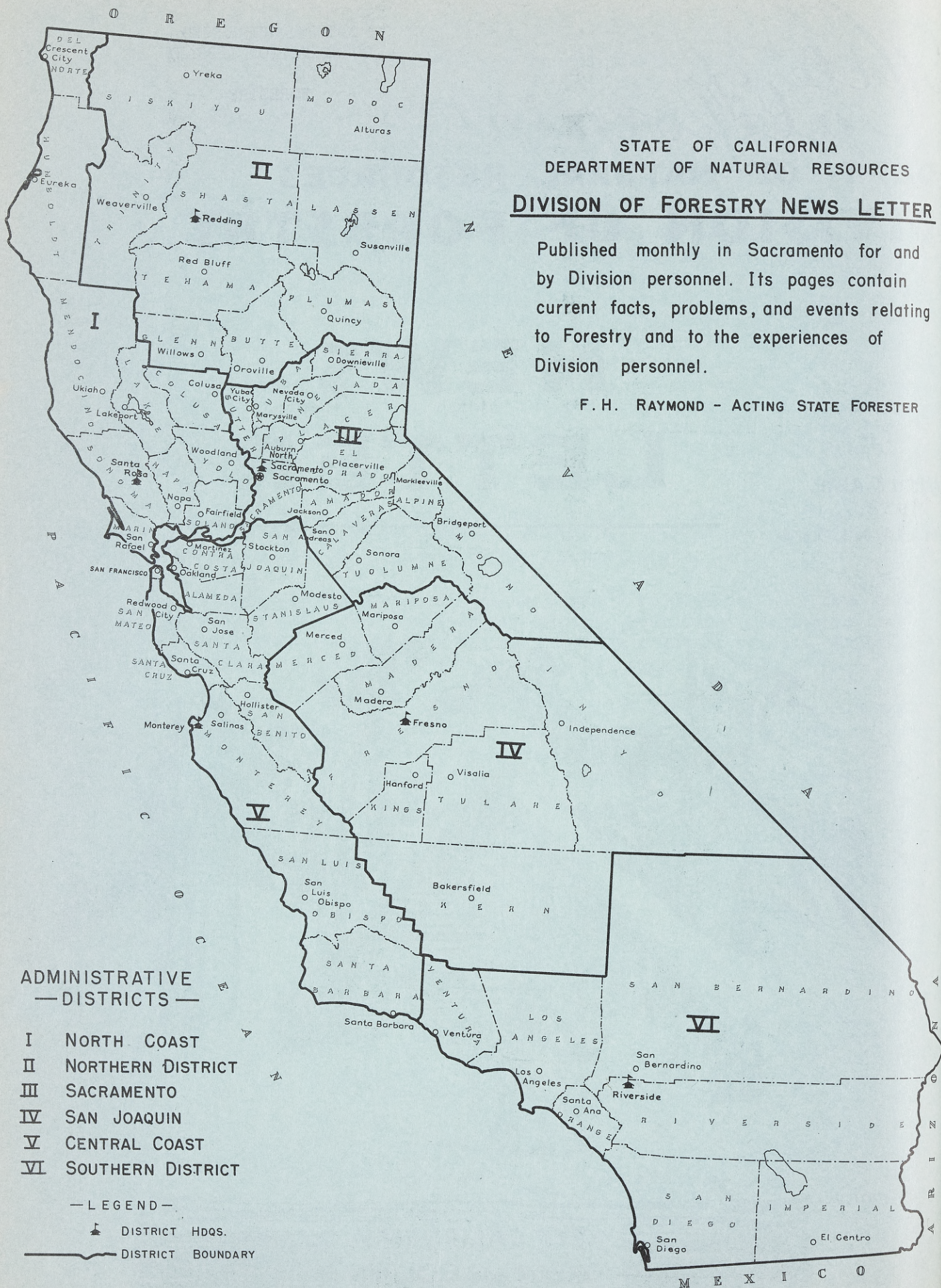
MARCH & APRIL
1955

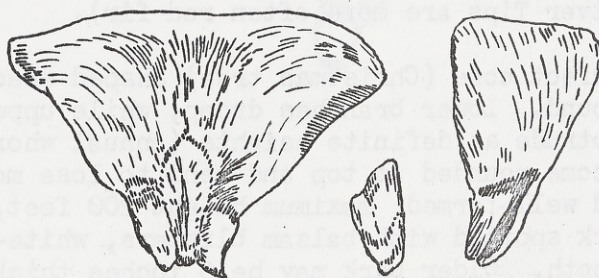
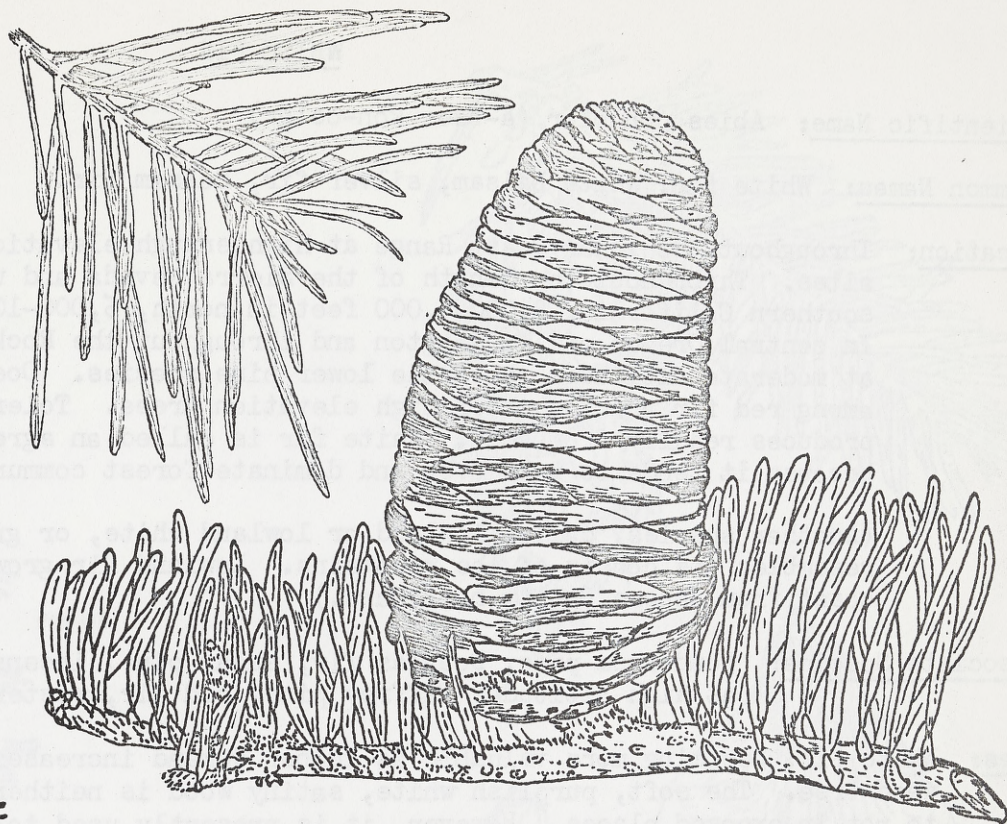
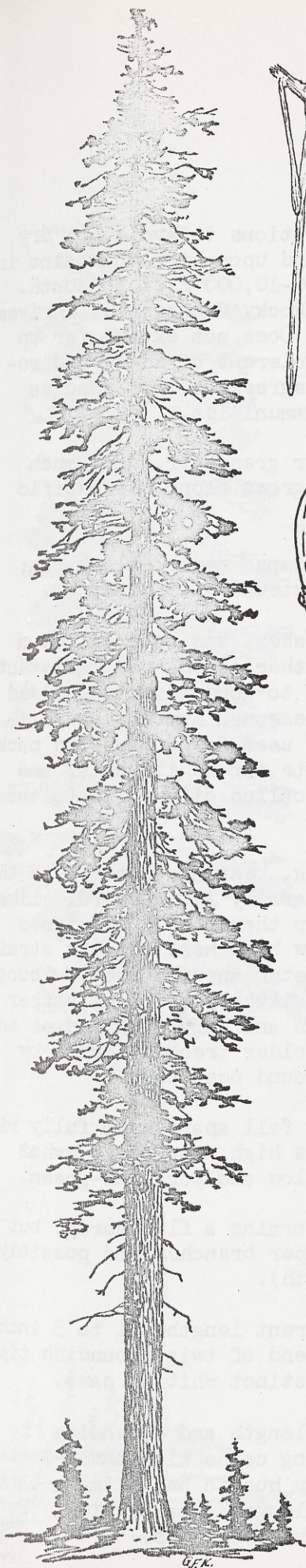
VOL. 14 NO. 3 & 4



-GORDON

KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN





WHITE FIR

WHITE FIR

Scientific Name: *Abies concolor* (a-bees-kon-color)

Common Names: White fir, white balsam, silver fir, balsam fir.

Location: Throughout the Inner Coast Range at high enough elevations to avoid hot dry sites. Throughout the length of the Sierra Nevada and upon high mountains in southern California; 3,000-6,000 feet in north, 5,000-10,000 feet in south. In central Oregon and Washington and throughout the Rocky Mountains. Thrives at moderate altitudes above the lower pine species. Does not extend far up among red fir and the other high elevation trees. Tolerant of shade and reproduces readily from seed. White fir is called an aggressive tree species because it tends to take over and dominate forest communities.

(Another species, called lowland or lowland white, or grand fir, very much resembles its cousin of the mountains. Lowland fir grows along the Pacific coast from Sonoma County northward.)

Associate Species: Ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, sugar pine, incense cedar, black oak; at high altitudes Jeffrey pine, red fir, western white pine.

Uses: White fir, becoming more valuable as lumber demand increases, was once called a weed tree. The soft, purplish white, satiny wood is neither strong nor resistant to rot in exposed places. However, it is presently used to good advantage mixed with pine and Douglas fir in building construction. Unseasoned lumber has disagreeable odor which disappears with drying. Extensively used for crates and packing boxes. Popular in landscape planting. The glory of white fir is its brief and romantic service as the ideal Christmas tree; generally called Silver Tip (although the prize Silver Tips are more often red fir).

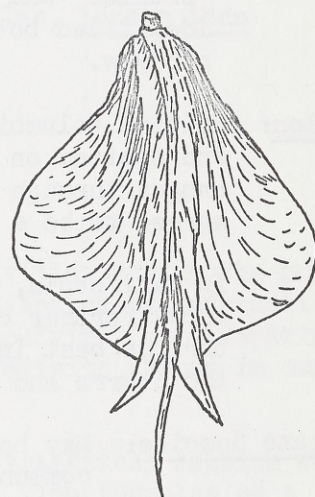
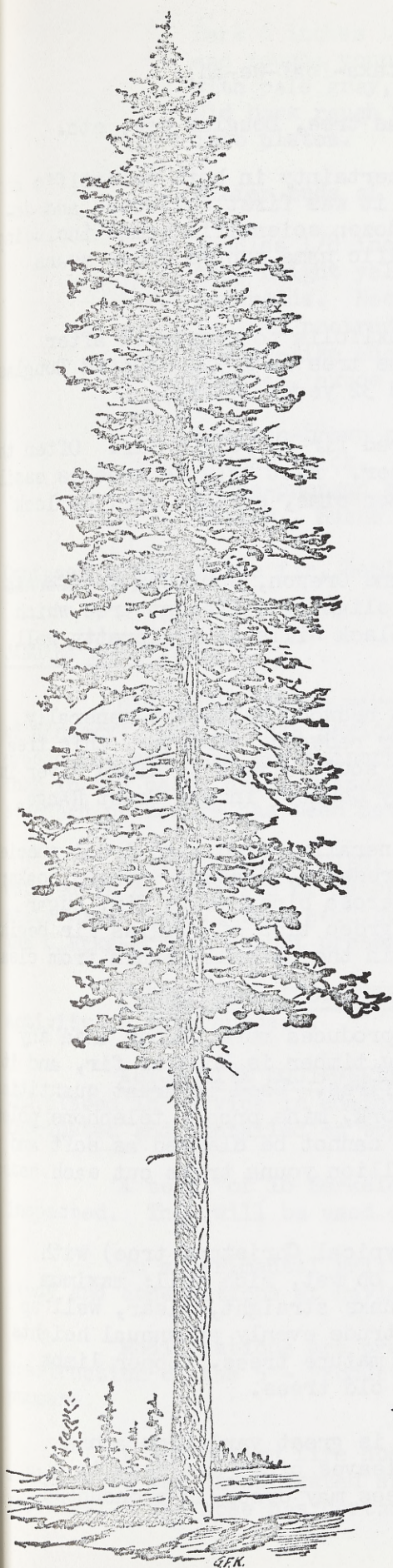
Identification: Perfect cone (Christmas tree) shaped when young, bearing branches to the ground. Lower branches droop, while upper generally lift upward. Limbs protrude at definite heights (annual whorls) up the trunk. Old trees become rounded at top and tend to lose most low branches. Trunks straight and well-formed; maximum height 200 feet, diameter about 5 feet. Young bark spotted with balsam blisters, white-gray slightly mottled, rather smooth. Older bark may be 6 inches thick rough and hard with ridges and furrows, mottled white-gray color. Sometimes older trees affected by punk rot which produces smelly, black-watery wound near base.

Cones are often difficult to find because they fall apart when fully ripe. Cones upright at end of branches, 3 to 5 inches high, shaped somewhat like a beehive, tight scales pale green or yellow and purplish-green.

Needles generally grow to each side of twigs forming a flat spray, but some may curl upward rigidly (most often in upper branches and possibly where site is colder or less congenial to growth).

Narrow, flat needles are conspicuous for different lengths (1 to 3 inches) upon the same twig, often long needles toward end of twig; roundish tips are rarely prickled; pale yellow-green with distinct whitish cast.

Confused with: Douglas fir (needles generally darker, uniform length and extending completely around twig; red winter buds; drooping cones with three-forked bracts extending beyond scales). Red fir (rusty hue to bark, inner bark blood red; needles generally all upright, same length, more rigid). Note: the true cedars bear upright cones resembling the true firs.



DOUGLAS FIR

DOUGLAS FIR

Scientific Name: Pseudotsuga taxifolia (soo-dough-tzoo-ga-taxa-foal-ee-ah)

Common Names: Douglas fir, spruce, fir, Oregon pine, Douglas tree, Douglas yew, etc.

Note: This noble tree has had an amazing record of uncertainty in both scientific and common names which still exists 150 years after it was first collected and described by botanists. It has been given a full dozen scientific names including that of true pine and true fir. And the scientific name quoted above means "false hemlock with leaves like the yew".

Botanists now wish to change the species name taxifolia to menziesii after Archibald Menzies who first saw and described the tree in 1792. (David Douglas, another great botanist, first collected its seed 32 years later.)

Often the tree or lumber is called simply fir, red fir or yellow fir. Often the "Douglas" and "fir" are hyphenated or run together. Fact is, the tree is easily identified both as tree and lumber, and is neither pine, spruce, fir, hemlock nor yew.

Location: British Columbia, throughout western Washington and Oregon, Northern California and spotted on western mountains of Nevada. The slightly different tree which ranges through the Rocky Mountains and into the Black Hills is now pretty well agreed to be a variety of the western species.

In California, Douglas fir is common in the coast redwood belt, but generally grows farther out upon the fringe area too dry for redwood. However, this tree thrives best in areas of heavy rainfall. Extends south almost to Kings River in the Sierra and the Santa Lucia Mountains (Monterey County) in the Coast Range.

Associate Species: May be found in large pure stands but generally mixed with local species common to the area; in the Coast Range, redwood, tanoak, madrone, oaks; in the Sierra, oaks, incense cedar, ponderosa pine, white fir, sugar pine. A not uncommon sight is the dark green tips of Douglas fir beginning to extend above lower broadleaf species in the natural return from cleared land to high coniferous forest.

Uses: Douglas fir is a highly useful species and generally produces more lumber than any other tree in the nation. One-fourth of the remaining timber is Douglas fir, and it reproduces rapidly and well if not exposed to forest fires. Used in great quantities for light and heavy construction, plywood, cabinet work, mine props, telephone poles, masts. Very strong for its weight, easily worked but cannot be classed as soft and grainless wood for refined work. Probably several million young trees cut each season for Christmas trees.

Identification: Young trees symmetrical, cone-shaped (the typical Christmas tree) with dense foliage and broad base. Fast growing on wet, rich soil; maximum height over 300 feet, diameter 10 feet. Trunks straight, clear, well up on older trees. Limbs on younger trees protrude evenly at annual heights (whorls). Lower limbs droop, especially on mature trees. Upper limbs always lift above horizontal except on very old trees.

Douglas fir is easily identified, but there is great variation among individual trees. Various shades of green leaves often are seen in a single clump of trees. Branches of some trees may droop in pronounced "weeping" effect, while others lift upward.

Bark 6 inches to more than 1 foot thick on old trees; corky but hard and tough; young bark with balsam blisters, neutral gray, splotched with pale gray, becoming dark gray with red-brown cast with age. Old bark rough with deep fissures up and down trunk broken somewhat into plates.

Winter buds at end of twigs are orange-brown, 1/4 inch long.

Needles 1/8 inch wide, about one inch long, flat, slight groove on top, bright yellow-green to dark bluish green on top, gray-green underside. Needles on each twig always appear of approximate equal length, protruding all around twig (not a flat spray) thus giving finger-like shape to each twig. Needles firm but not stiff, blunt pointed, exude rich "piney" odor. (Note: spruce needles are stiff.)

Reddish-brown cones droop; 2 or 3 inches long (rarely 4), about 2 inches thick. Cones firm but may be easily torn apart by hand. Three-pronged bracts protrude from among cone scales, longer than scales. Seeds dull brown, heavily winged.

Confused with: White fir, hemlock, spruce.

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

DISPATCH: There were no fire or flood dispatching activities during the month of January. During this period we have been able to review our dispatching information procedures and make preliminary studies for the improvement of receiving, more rapidly than in the past, daily messages of forest fire conditions. No definite change in our standard procedure has been developed.

STATISTICAL STUDIES: During the month of January the statistical section was engaged in preparation of materials for studying fire crew travel time formulas on a state-wide basis. This section has also been engaged in the preparation of material for the Clarke-McNary report presently being prepared.

FOREST LAND PROTECTION RESEARCH: During the month of January there was no new activity on this subject.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: A Chevrolet with McCabe Powers Service Body was received and placed in service in administration. A combination ladder and conduit carrier was fabricated and installed on top of the unit.

A total of 16 Berkeley two-stage centrifugal fire pumps were received and inspected. They will be used on crew truck construction.

An experimental grill guard for a pickup has been installed for the purpose of study and observations at Davis Shop.

Modifications are presently being made and specifications written for the construction of the 5 - Production Model #2 specials and 3 - Slip-on units for pickup pumpers.

A new design fire hose having a latex impregnated cloth tube in lieu of a rubber tube was investigated and the vendor has submitted 600' of 1 1/2" size for our field appraisal. The hose has certain desirable features such as a very close weave, a relative

high burst (850 - 900# when new), a weight comparable to linen hose and is flat cured for ease in storage or for rolling and carrying.

As a result of our field research into light weight hose last year, we have cooperated with the vendor in attempting to correct the problems encountered. This hose weighs about 15% less than linen hose.

FIRE PREVENTION: During the month plans were made for the production of new printed forest fire prevention materials and copy prepared in preparation for printing.

Most of the posters and other campaign materials were received from the National Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention headquarters.

Field personnel continued with group programs, preparation of exhibit materials and summaries of 1954 activities. Programs with cooperators for the coming season were developed and assistance given to the Keep Green Committees in organizing local committees.

Five additional 16 mm copies of the motion picture "Wildlands of California" were received and made available for use by Division personnel.

FOREST PRACTICE: Two alternate plans were approved by the State Board of Forestry in San Jose on January 27, 1955. One plan submitted by Waxner Brothers of Nevada City permits a deviation from the South Sierra Forest Practice Rules with respect to cutting small trees so that a prescribed thinning can be made to improve forest growth. The plan submitted by Tennant Land and Timber Company of Tennant within the North Sierra Pine Forest District allows the cutting of overstory pole-size trees for conversion into lumber on the area designated to provide greater silvicultural management for the production of Christmas trees.

In the activity report for December according to preliminary figures, 1,555 timber operators registered with the State Forester during 1954 and reported a cut of over 5.25 billion board feet of timber in California during 1953. Final figures reveal that actually 1,599 timber operator's permits were issued and the 1953 timber harvest was increased to 5.99 billion board feet.

SERVICE FORESTRY: The Service Forestry program accomplishments during 1954 continue to show improvement over previous years. The seven service foresters employed in this program received 1,293 requests for services. Some 859 small woodland owners involving 110,121 acres were given advice and forest management assistance. Another 206 forest products operators were also advised. The service foresters were able to persuade 183 landowners to improve cutting practices on their lands and to plant some 248 acres to trees. During 1954, under this program, 64.8 million board feet of timber and Christmas trees with a total gross income value of over \$726,000 to the landowners were harvested in comparison with 48.5 million board feet of timber and Christmas trees valued together at \$462,000 in 1953.

A timber tip guide sheet was issued by the Small Woodlands Council entitled "Erosion Control in Forests" to inform small timberland owners of good practices to follow in order to minimize erosion of their land following logging.

REFORESTATION: The Division of Forestry and the Division of Beaches and Parks through cooperative agreement are reforesting that part of the Conejos Burn which lies inside the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. The project will take 3 years to complete. Some 50,000 trees were planted this season. The planting is being done under the supervision of Forestry and Parks personnel by inmates from a nearby honor camp. The planting stock used came from seed collected in Southern California and the southern Sierra Nevadas. The species planted were ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, Coulter pine, and incense cedar which are native to the park.

STATE FORESTS: Some 15.7 million board feet of timber, Christmas trees, and forest products were sold from State Forests in California during 1954 bringing a return to the state of \$184,093. Last year Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County sold 13,472,927 board feet of timber and Latour State Forest in Shasta County sold 2,164,890 board feet of timber. Since 1946 some \$790,000 has been received in revenue from State Forests. During this same period approximately 60 million feet of timber, 30,460 Christmas trees, and a small amount of miscellaneous forest products have been harvested for commercial purposes.

On the three most active forests which include Jackson State Forest, Latour State Forest, and Mountain Home State Forest, considerable effort in addition to current timber sales was devoted to administration and the management, experimental, and demonstrational phases of the State Forest program. Boundary surveys and timber inventories were high priority jobs. Thinning and pruning experiments were initiated on two forests. Several plots were established for determination of growth, mortality, and a variety of other purposes which included thinning redwood sprout clumps, release of seedlings from brush, treatment to aid regeneration, and various methods of harvesting to increase growth. On one forest a timber stand improvement experiment was undertaken to determine the effectiveness of chemical control using 2-4-D amine on weed tree species. Several planting and seeding trials for artificial and natural regeneration were made. Some 60 acres of unstocked forest land was planted to trees. Field work preparation of 1955 timber sales also took considerable time. A great deal of work was also devoted to developing physical improvements on each forest. Much effort was made in hazard abatement by falling snags and general clean up.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Preliminary compilation of range improvement statistics shows that 711 controlled burns were completed during 1954, on a total area of 219,392 acres. The acreage of escapes amounted to about 3.1 per cent of the total. Reseeding was planned on approximately 43,600 acres, or a little less than 20 per cent.

During January, Range Improvement Technicians participated in inspection of the areas burned by the Devil and San Clemente fires in Monterey County, to observe flood and erosion damage.

A progress report is being prepared on the activities completed on the Bressi Ranch field study in San Diego County.

Range Improvement Technicians attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Range Management in San Jose during January. The program included a wide variety of very instructive papers highlighting recent developments in range management throughout the country.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

DISPATCH: Due to an unseasonable dry period in Southern California, two small brush fires were suppressed in San Diego County north of Santa Ysabel. The fire burned a total of 245 acres. These fires occurred on March 8 and 9. During this period temperatures were in the 80's with humidity 20° and below.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: Three inspections were made of the Tulare County fire truck under construction by P. E. Van Pelt in Oakdale. Four inspectors were made of fire trucks under construction by Earl Sherman in Oakland. Two F-750 Ford chassis were delivered to Davis. These two units and a No. 1 Pilot Model were delivered to Food Machinery for construction. Three Ford F-100 pickups were received at Davis. Six F-600 Ford stakesides were received. Five of these stakesides had canopies.

Bids were opened for the construction of thirteen Production Model #4 crew trucks on February 21 and award was made to Superior Truck & Body Company in San Francisco.

San Francisco.

The annual joint meeting of the U.S.F.S. and the Division's Technical Equipment Board was held in San Francisco February 8. Development and Research projects of each agency were discussed and agreements were reached on those projects which should be cooperative.

Forestry representatives attended meetings of the Fire Services Advisory Committee, and the Executive Committee of Operation Firestop. Work continued on the script for the documentary film on Operation Firestop.

Equipment engineers assisted in the inspection of fire quipment being constructed for county fire protection under contract to the Division of Forestry.

FOREST PRACTICE: Timber harvesting has more than doubled in California since 1946. In the past few years California has become a new home for a great many logging operators from Oregon and Washington. This increasing activity, particularly in the North Coast and Coast Ranges and to a lesser extent in the North and Central Sierras, has caused the work load of the forest practice program to steadily grow both in the number of operations and logged areas requiring inspection.

In 1954 there were 1,451 forest product harvesting firms in California that required inspection by the Division for compliance with the local forest practice rules. The number of woods operations conducted by these firms requiring inspection rose to 3,098 in 1954 in comparison to 2,432 in 1953.

Practically every active logging organization was inspected at least once. More operations were inspected at least once in 1954 than in any previous year. A total of 4,144 woods inspections were made during 1954.

In general, in spite of the fact that the recently amended forest practice rules are more stringent and that inspection procedures last year were more thorough, many operators did a better job and more operators are considering slash and snag disposal as part of the current logging job. Follow-up inspections indicated that violations are now being more quickly corrected. On a state-wide basis the forest practice rules most frequently violated in decreasing order of occurrence were those pertaining to snag disposal, slash disposal, posting of fire rules, fire plan preparation, erosion control, and fire plan filing.

An alternate plan for Wetsel-Oviatt Lumber Company, Inc., was approved by the State Board of Forestry in San Francisco on February 23, 1955. This plan permits a deviation from the South Sierra Pine Forest Practice Rules with respect to the piling and burning of slash resulting from logging so that the company can satisfy the objectives of both the rules and the wishes of the landowners by providing greater protectional management of the timberland.

BLISTER RUST: Results of blister rust control activities during 1954 on state and private lands under the cooperative program between the state, federal government, and private owners were released recently by the Blister Rust Control Unit of the U. S. Forest Service. The program is designed to keep in check further spread of the white pine blister rust in valuable sugar pine stands.

Control is accomplished by eradication of the alternate host to this disease, the wild gooseberry, within certain sugar pine stands that justify treatment from economic and silvicultural considerations. Similar work is done on federal lands also.

Control work on state and private lands is under the direction of Blister Rust Control Unit personnel under an agreement between the Division of Forestry and

the federal government in accordance with law and State Board of Forestry policy. State appropriation of \$125,000 furnished the major share of funds. Timberland owners contributed \$5,350. Expenditure of these funds for control on private land was matched by federal funds.

Gooseberries were eradicated by hand and chemical means from 14,427 acres of state and private land during the 1954 season. Of this, 287 acres were done on Latour State Forest and 200 acres on Calaveras Big Trees State Park. Most of this work was done by private contractors. An additional 8,444 acres of state and private land were surveyed and found to meet the required control standards without further work. A total of some 1,656,000 gooseberry plants were destroyed during the year.

Present status of the control program shows that there are 227,035 acres of private land in control units. Initial eradication has been done on 176,539 acres and is now 78% complete. State lands within control units amount to 7,604 acres of which 6,535 acres or 86% have received initial treatment. Some of these lands, however, are scheduled for re-eradication as logging and other disturbances cause reinvasion by the host plant.

REFORESTATION: Forestry personnel, during the past month, planted a total of 4,000 ponderosa pine and Douglas fir (2-0) seedlings as an experiment on the Boggs Mountain State Forest in Lake County to determine what conditions are necessary to get adequate survival of planting stock in that area. Each tree planted was shaded on the south and west side of the tree with shingles to reduce mortality caused by high summer soil temperatures around the tree stem.

In the fall of 1952 eleven experimental planting plots were established at Division Fire Control Stations in San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego Counties. The purpose of these plots was to determine the feasibility of planting coniferous trees in the foothill areas of Southern California.

According to recent observations of these experimental plantings, coniferous trees can be grown under most conditions (except desert) in Southern California if given supplemental watering. The use of shingles or screen cylinders for shading also increases the survival rate. Screens are recommended for shading as they also provide protection from rodents. Two year old seedlings proved to be better than one year old seedlings. In clay soils ponderosa pine gave better results, but in clay and loam soils Jeffrey pine was best.

Four plots were also established in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. The results observed from these plots are being used in replanting of the Conejos burn inside the Park area.

Observations on all these experimental plots will be continued and results noted for future plantings on those areas.

TIMBER TAXATION: History regarding forest taxation matters in California was recently made. In response to a request of the Humboldt County Assessor to have certain young-growth timber declared mature for assessment purposes, the Board of Forestry at a meeting held in San Jose on January 27, 1955, appointed its vice chairman, Mr. Wendell T. Robie, to serve on a board to take action on the request. Section 12-3/4 of the State Constitution exempts young-growth timber on harvested or planted lands until such timber is mature. The law provides that young-growth timber shall be mature for assessment purposes after 40 years have elapsed since the harvest of the original timber or planting when a board made up of the local assessor and a representative each from the Boards of Equalization and Forestry so determine. To act upon the request from Humboldt County, this board convened at a meeting held in Eureka on February 9, 1955. Young-growth timber on five parcels of land containing some

2,900 acres was declared to be mature by this board. This is the first time this board has officially acted since the Constitutional provision was adopted in 1926. Present policy prescribes that young-growth timber shall be mature for assessment purposes when an owner initiates cutting of such timber, or when substantial amounts of young-growth timber are sold, dealt in, or operated on within a county.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Division of Forestry personnel participated in seeding of areas burned by the Devil and San Clemente fires in Monterey County, in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service and Soil Conservation Service. A total of 2,125 acres was seeded by helicopter, using a mixture of two pounds of soft chess and five pounds of annual ryegrass per acre.

MARCH ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The continued lack of precipitation during the month of March coupled with drying north winds, has been responsible for a number of pre-season forest fires in the Sierra foothills, the largest being a 160 acre fire in Calaveras County.

FIRE RESEARCH & PLANNING - STATISTICS: The 1954 Annual Fire Statistics Summary was completed and distributed. Analysis was made of the 1954 Forest Fire Prediction program and the 1955 Prediction was computed. This information was blue-lined and released to the field.

The annual Fire Weather Conference at Portland, Oregon, sponsored by the U. S. Weather Bureau, Fire Weather Service, was attended by one member of the fire control section.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: 11 - 1/2 ton pickup trucks were received and processed at Davis. 1 - 1 1/2 ton Dodge stakebed was received. 13 - International 4-wheel drive chassis were received. Eleven of these units were delivered to Superior Truck for construction. 10 - F-750 Ford chassis were delivered to Food Machinery in San Jose and are presently being built into heavy forest fire trucks.

FOREST INSECT CONTROL: "Forest Insect Conditions in California," an official report of the California Forest Pest Control Action Council based on 1954 detection surveys, was published and has been distributed to all registered timber operators, public and private agencies, and others interested in forest insect conditions in California. Twenty infestations are reported with control action recommended.

A special Forest Management Field School on forest insects sponsored by the University of California, the Division of Forest Insect Research of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, and the Division of Forestry was held March 28 - April 1 at the Division station at Dew Drop in Amador County. Over 40 foresters representing private industry and public forestry agencies attended this training session. Nine representatives of the Division attended. Instruction was devoted to identification of important forest insects, survey methods, prevention of losses from insects, and control of insect outbreaks. The instruction was held both in the classroom and the field.

REFORESTATION: Continued efforts were made by Division of Forestry field personnel to plant trees on state land and to initiate demonstrations in reforestation. Some 13 acres surrounding the Pine Hill Lookout in El Dorado County were planted. Division personnel and labor from the Iron Mine Honor Camp and the Pine Grove CYA forestry work camp were used. An additional 2,000 trees also were planted at the Iron Mine demonstration plot originally planted in previous years.

In connection with Arbor Day, Tree Planting Week, and Conservation Week activities the Division also participated in other planting projects. One demonstra-

tion in Butte County was conducted with the cooperation of a large lumber company and involved about a hundred high school students and 4-H Club members. Other demonstrations were held for high school and elementary school students in Monterey County.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Conditions have been exceptionally favorable for spring burning in chaparral-covered areas of the North Coast; appreciable acreages have been burned for range improvement.

Considerable progress was made on the Backbone Range Study Area in Shasta County, treatment of the brush prior to burning having been largely finished --40 acres have been cleared of brush, and on 90 acres it has been mowed. Lines have been readied for summer burning and plans for seeding completed.

On March 8th, 71 additional yearling heifers were placed on the Spring Dell Range Study Area in San Benito County. The cattle were weighed at the time, and will be reweighed at regular intervals during the grazing season, to establish weight-gain records.

A Field Day was held on the Bressi Ranch Study in San Diego County, on March 23rd. The different methods used in clearing the various plots of brush were explained. The final event of the day was an actual demonstration of brush clearing with an anchor chain pulled by two caterpillar-type tractors. A total of 85 persons attended the Field Day, including a large proportion of local ranchers.

ENGINEERING: Witch Creek Fire Control Station, San Diego County, is completed and ready for occupancy.

On March 16, a joint meeting was held between Forestry and the Department of Corrections and, also, the Department of Youth Authority, to review progress being made in the Forestry Honor Camp program and to chart a course for its future expansion.

ASSOCIATE RANGER WINS MERIT AWARD

Marion W. Steele, Associate Ranger, Davis, was awarded a Certificate of Commendation by the Merit Award Board in April for a safety suggestion which has been adopted by the Division of Forestry.

Steele suggested that wire or bolt cutters used in Division fire trucks be insulated, thereby providing a measure of safety for the rare possibility of cutting a wire fence which has become charged from a remote source.

The proposal is to be placed in effect on the present supply of cutters as soon as the best insulating material has been secured. Future orders will include insulated handles on cutters.

RECOMMENDED READING

"The Ecology of Desert Plants" by Frits W. Went in the April issue of Scientific American is recommended for reading.

The discussion on germination and competition has application in forestry and range improvement. The relationship of precipitation, season of year, abrasion and root growth should be of great interest to Park Rangers, especially those in the Anza and Borrego Deserts.

DeWitt Nelson, Director
Department of Natural Resources

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Beginning with this issue, Sacramento will report all personnel changes occurring from the Assistant State Forest Ranger level on up. Due to lack of space we are unable to report the changes for all classes.

In order to bring you up-to-date we are listing below the changes made so far in 1955:

- January 1. Mike Schori is now a Forest Ranger. Leon Lefebvre appointed as Training Officer I for the Division. Formerly employed by the State Department of Agriculture.
2. Howard L. Gray appointed as Assistant Construction Inspector in District V, Monterey. Mr. Gray has not been previously employed by the state.
- February 1. Charles Wagener, Associate Ranger in Eldorado County transferred to the Sacramento office to take charge of our Property Office, a position formerly held by Ray Greve who retired last year.
2. Carl M. Downs was appointed as an Assistant Ranger in Orange County. He was formerly a Forest Fire Dispatcher in the same county. Both positions are Schedule A.
- March 1. John T. Odgers was appointed as Assistant Ranger in Fresno County. He came from Nevada County where he was a forest fire fighter foreman.
- April 1. Joseph Springer, former Assistant Ranger in Butte County, was appointed as Assistant Forest Technician assigned to the Latour State Forest.
2. Layland Friberg was appointed Assistant State Forest Ranger to replace Mr. Springer in Butte County. He has served as a Forestry Trainee in District II and was recently reinstated as a forest fire fighter foreman in Shasta County after completing the trainee program.

IF EVERYONE - By Seymour Taylor

If every one who drives a car
Could lie a month in bed
With broken bones and stiched-up wounds,
Or fractures of the head.
And there endure the agonies
That many people do.
They'd never need preach safety
Any more to me or you.
If every one could stand beside
The bed of some close friend
And hear the Doctor say "No Hope"
Before that fatal end,
And see him there unconscious
Never knowing what took place,
The laws and rules of traffic
I am sure we'd soon embrace.

If every one could meet
The wife and children left behind
And step into the darkened home
Where once the sunlight shined,
And look upon "the Vacant Chair,"
Where Daddy used to sit,
I am sure each reckless driver
Would be forced to think a bit.
If every one who takes the wheel
Would say a little prayer,
And keep in mind those in the car
Depending on his care,
And make a vow and pledge himself
To never take a chance,
The Great Crusade for Safety
Would suddenly advance.

API ISSUES NEW FIRE PROTECTION MANUAL

A new fire protection manual for natural gasoline plants has been published by the American Petroleum Institute. The manual contains recommendations for fire protection equipment and an employee training program for use in all types and sizes of natural gasoline and cycling plants.

Although the manual was prepared primarily for natural gasoline and cycling plants, it also will have broad application in gas compression stations. Written under the auspices of the Committee on Natural Gasoline of the Institute's Central Committee on Fire Protection and Accident Prevention, the manual may be obtained at the Institute's New York headquarters, 50 West 50th Street, New York, N.Y. It is priced at 50 cents per copy.

Western Oil and Gas Association
The Week in Review - February 4, 1955

API ISSUES TANK VEHICLE CLEANING MANUAL

Publication of a new edition of a safety manual on how to clean tank vehicles used for the transportation of flammable liquids was announced by the American Petroleum Institute.

The purpose of the manual is to provide information on how to clean, prior to repair, any tank vehicle equipment which is used in the transportation of flammable liquids. Attention is called to the measures which should be taken to protect personnel against harmful vapor concentration and to avoid the ignition of flammable vapors which may be present during certain phases of mobile tank-cleaning operations.

The new edition replaces a tentative manual issued five years ago. It is known as API accident-prevention manual No. 13A. Copies may be obtained for \$1.00 each from the American Petroleum Institute, 50 West 50th Street, New York or the Los Angeles office at 510 West Sixth Street. Discounts are allowed on quantities.

Western Oil and Gas Association
The Week in Review - February 18, 1955

ABOUT THE DIVISION

SONOMA COUNTY WINS COVETED AWARD

The annual presentation of the NCAA award for the calendar year of 1954 was made at a District I Rangers meeting held at Howard Forest on March 14. The delay in the presentation had been necessitated due to the fact that all District I ranger units had been nominated for it.

The 1953 winner, Ranger Erickson of Napa County, presided at the ceremony and in his presentation to Ranger Glenn of Sonoma County as winner for the year of 1954 offered a few remarks.

In his acceptance speech Ranger Glenn assured the group that he would bend every effort to being a worthy holder of the award and would proudly display it in his office.

C. W. Fairbank, Deputy State Forester

LOS ANGELES TAKE NOTE, IT COULD BE WORSE!

Last week while on a trip to Butte County where the weather gets chilly and stays that-a-way, Ray (Texas Ranger) Higgins, Fire Prevention Officer of District II, had occasion to be in Oroville come supper time. He carefully locked his car and sallied forth to partake of the evening meal. Upon his return to his car he noticed it was all fogged up but good. "Gosh that looks thick enough to be smoke" mused our Texas Ranger, "I wonder, Aw no, couldn't be, must be smog, it's pretty cold and foggy here." Some smog they have in Oroville - considerable of the front seat had burned away!

REFORESTATION PROJECT

On Saturday, March 19, three generations of Foresters gathered together on the Old Sawmill Peak burn northwest of Paradise in Butte County to combine their efforts in reforesting a small portion of this burn.

The participants included ten Chico High School Forestry students and 87 4-H members of forestry projects representing the foresters of tomorrow, California Division of Forestry and Diamond Match Company Foresters representing the present generation of foresters, and retired, but still active, U.S.F.S. Ranger Reuben Box.

Two thousand ponderosa pine seedlings were planted over an approximate area of six acres. They were planted with a view to the future with long-range plans calling for additional plantings along with pruning, thinning and growth studies to be conducted throughout the area.

Small scale experimental work in the adaptability of different species to growing conditions in this area was initiated with the planting of small numbers of redwood, Arizona cypress, and jeffery pine species. Additional experimental work along this line is planned, and it is hoped that several types of hybrid conifers may be secured for future plantings.

J. C. Springer
Assistant State Forest Ranger

NEVADA COUNTY

Progress is more than satisfactory on the well being dug at the new property acquired for the Assistant Ranger residence at Shady Creek station.

The first hole, dug last year, was still a "duster" at fifty feet and due to the dangerous rock formation in the lower workings, it was decided to move the well to a more favorable location.

One must see the new "diggins" to appreciate it, as it is more elaborate than some of the gold mines in the area. As of this writing we are 43 feet deep with 2500 gallons of water per 24 hours coming in. We have air-powered hoist to remove the "muck" and an air-powered pump to keep the hole dry, plus an enclosed shaft and hoist house.

It probably sounds as though we spent more time and effort on the upper workings, rather than on digging the well itself, but with a little "cousin Jack" ingenuity with scrap materials plus the generous loan of the pump and hoist from a local mine we were in business. Oh yes, if you happen to visit the project around noon on a Thursday, you may be able to talk one of the "miners" out of a spot of tea, a bit of saffron cake, or a piece of pasty from his lunch box.

We really believe that "Operation Fire Stop" missed a bet last summer on one item namely Snow. We received an unexpected "requisition" of 33 inches during a recent storm, and after the driveway and yard were cleared, we found that we had a stock pile of about 5,000 yards.

The thought occurred to us that it must be useful for something, so it was suggested that we experiment with it in the suppression of fires. Our thought was that in place of building fire line, to place a ring of snow around the fire and its cooling action on the area would cause the fire to die out from lack of heat.

So don't be surprised next summer when you hear some foreman ordering 50 yards of snow over the radio instead of the old familiar "Roll the Dozer". At a later date, exact figures as to the amount of snow per acre per type of cover will be published for all those interested.

Kenneth Green, Truck Driver, recently discharged from the Air Force came back to work for the CDF for a short time. He then decided to reenlist, the Air Force gain, our loss.

On Sunday, February 6, 1955, several of the personnel from Nevada County donned their "chefs" caps to aid the local Peace Officers in the annual March of Dimes benefit square dance and dinner. This is an all day affair open to the public at a buck a plate and is always a huge success. The local peace officers always appreciate the CDF "chefs and waiters."

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

PLACER COUNTY

Since we haven't contributed to the News Letter for some time, we would like to introduce our personnel.

W. F. (Mike) Brock, Ranger; Deane L. Bennett, Associate Ranger; Frank W. Jenkins, Assistant Ranger; Robert L. Fippin, Assistant Ranger; Joseph L. Quinlan, Assistant Ranger; Phillip R. Spangler, Dispatcher; Mida June Deal, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk; Charles J. Jave, F.E.O., Dale B. Berger, Foreman; Elmore M. Dougherty, Foreman; John L. Morris, Foreman; Franklin P. Richerson, Foreman; Jerry E. Huhtala, Driver; James C. Major, Driver; and Edgar W. Roleder, Driver.

Dale B. Berger and James C. Major both returned to us from the service at the end of the fire season. On the 13th of February Dale Berger stood up and repeated those words "I do" and we would like to extend congratulations to him and his wife.

Deane Bennett is a Naval Reserve Officer and he took a two-week cruise to Acapulco and he had the nerve to send back picture post cards of the beauties and then bring back colored slides. Some duty!

Old Man Winter occasionally makes a visit to Placer County. Heavy snow in January, followed by strong winds, put our Auburn-Colfax telephone line out of service for some time. To restore the service, it was necessary to replace twenty-one poles in a stretch of about nine miles of line. At least something good came of the incident, in that it offered an excellent opportunity for some of our personnel to apply some of the instruction they received in our recent telephone school which was held at the Auburn Station.

Mida June Deal, Int. Steno. Clerk

KINGS COUNTY

We have recently completed a fifteen (15) hour training course conducted by Richard W. Nevins, Instructor of Fire Training, with the Department of Education. Six volunteer fire departments participated. Classes were interesting and educational, despite bad weather, a record attendance was noted. We had a little of everything during the five-week period, rain, frost, and fog. Although it was not on the agenda, the men learned how to combat the elements as well as fire.

I wish to express gratitude for interest and support expressed in the last issues of our News Letter to my plea for bigger and better News Letter in "55" to our faithful editor, who we could well imagine would have quite a task preparing an edition with little or no contributions from the field, and to the many people throughout the state who have also expressed their interest and desire of a more informative News Letter.

I think that Raleigh Taylor's article in the January and February issue entitled "Is It Worth While" was exceptional and worthy of review; he has expressed clearly the important merits of this publication.

I understand that Ranger Mann in Tulare County has come up with a system whereby a different member of his staff will contribute each month, and in baseball language as he puts it "next up and next in the hole" will receive copies of Tulare County's contribution to avoid duplications and to serve as a reminder. This appears to be a very logical and commendable solution, we will be looking forward to their contributions.

Associate Ranger Lindley has returned to active duty, although still under medical care, as of March 2nd. Curt has been off on compensation since July 30, 1954, due to injuries received when struck by a car while directing traffic at the scene of a fire. We are all happy to see Curt and everything back to normal again.

J. T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

The month of April has been a month of above normal activity (spring has burst) fires are on the increase, nothing bad but when the rains stop and the wind blows dryness occurs and then fires start popping every place.

Meetings with various groups and showing of films have stepped up considerably.

We have one boy Pete Bryson who has decided to try working for Uncle Sam for a spell, the best of luck Pete.

Harold Red, truck driver at Burris Park, was confined to the hospital with a bad cold but is up and around again. Basil Watkins, the driver at Kit Carson, was confined to the hospital for a few days but is now back on the job feeling much better.

Mrs. Edra Lindley, the Ranger's wife, is on the mend again after being ill for a short time.

Assistant Ranger Couste blossomed out last week with one of the new creations, a Buick.

I attended the annual round up held at Bass Lake this month and I believe the northern tribes Chief showed a little more endurance than the southern Chief, at least the northern Chief looked a little better upon parting for their respective tribes. It was a very good meeting and a lot of good things came out of this meeting.

Looks like a good year for grain crops and harvesters are being worked on at various ranches. Letters have been sent to most of the large growers and inspections will start on all harvesters in this county on May 1st.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT IV

Persons desiring public recognition have been reported as saying that they didn't care what people said of them as long as they were mentioned in some manner. Should this adage be true, then our people are at least thinking of forest fire prevention, and perhaps in the not too distant future the "lunar" system as a fire prevention measure can be added to the tools of fire suppression, and result in a marked reduction in man-caused fires.

The "lunar" system was presented to this office by an employee (who requested that his identity be kept anonymous), along with statistics showing that the moon had a definite effect on man-caused fires, and that fire prevention patrol and activity should be increased during certain phases of the moon. Our statistician pointed out that in District IV, 31.98% of all man-caused fires started during the time of the new moon, and that 19.29% started during the first quarter, and 23.86% during the full moon, and 24.87% during the last quarter.

In support of his theory, our informant maintains that accidents, suicides, etc., increase correspondingly during the new moon and full moon. Not having been a student of "moonology" for some years, we will just have to refer this theory to higher levels for evaluation.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

On Friday, February 11, District IV held its annual party. The party began with a little program honoring Lee Slinkard, who recently retired as Assistant Ranger. With Dick Rafferty as emcee, a humorous "This Is Your Life" was presented for Lee. Going back through the years when he first began working for the U. S. Forest Service, and then for the State of California in the CCC program, and on in Forestry work until he became Assistant Ranger. Many friends of Lee Slinkard were present, at the invitation of the District, and helped to make the program interesting and entertaining, and a time long to be remembered.

Humorous incidents were brought to light with the help of some District IV gals.One of his old schoolmarm's, one of his Indian girl friends from the Kern River Canyon, and an anonymous gal who kept trying to get into the act, but was pushed away repeatedly,

fearing she might "tell all" and "break up" the party!

Lee Slinkard and his wife Jessie were presented with a set of matched luggage as a parting gift, and were given the book entitled "This Is Your Life" which contained a biography of his years with the Forest Service and Forestry.

After the program, dancing and fellowship was enjoyed by the more than 300 people present. About midnight, a lovely buffet supper was served, thanks to the hard work of 4 or 5 of the District IV Headquarters' wives. Everyone said it was a most enjoyable party, an evening well spent.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

We are pleased to announce that Associate State Forest Ranger C. E. Lindley, Kings County, has returned to active duty in Hanford, after seven months absence as the result of injury in the line of duty.

Dispatcher George Carhart of Mariposa County, is on extended sick leave, as the result of what his physician has diagnosed as a heart condition.

The Central Sierra Forest Fire Conference was staged at Ducey's Bass Lake Lodge on April 5-7 and Chairman Elmo Freear is to be congratulated on the fine meeting and we hope the northern section enjoyed as successful a meeting as was ours. Assistant Superintendent George Walker of Sequoia Kings Canyon National Park is Chairman for next year.

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

Has the time come in the Division of Forestry that some form of supervised physical training be mandatory to all classes of employee required to do fire line duty? This is the question that was recently put to District IV employees. To date, reaction to this question has not been adverse. So perhaps in the near future Mr. Ranger will spend four hours a week on the golf links, or doing the mile at double time. We can guarantee this would reduce many a waistline, and perhaps create a few ranger vacancies, if the program were attacked too arduously!!

Wm. T. Jacobson
Assistant Deputy State Forester

MADERA COUNTY

Madera County personnel recently underwent a three-day training session at the Madera headquarters. All foremen, equipment operators, and truck drivers were in attendance. Assistant Rangers Lewis, Stephens, Griggs, Kessler, and Associate Ranger Williams acted in the capacity of instructors for different parts of the school. Considerable attention was given to the subject of training and the use of the report of performance as a tool. The film, "The Inner Man Steps Out" was obtained from the Division's film library. It is recommended as a help when a group is discussing the general subject of good supervision.

Several pieces of new equipment were explained to and used by the group. These included an Edwards tool sharpening outfit, the hosepack board and bag commonly used to pack hose in conjunction with the Pacific Marine pumps and two new models of Marmon-Herrington crew trucks with compliments of equipment.

Dispatcher McCarty was given time with the group to review those reports of various types that are new or have given trouble during the past season.

Madera and Merced has recently set up a system of property accounting wherein each station has a separate inventory which is charged to the individual in charge of the station. A strict system of transfer using accurate descriptions is in effect. During the taking of inventory all personnel were used enough to become generally familiar with the system. At the training school the whole system was gone over with the group to answer questions and further impress the importance of the matter of property accountability. We are attempting to get on top of the matter of losses of state property.

The Range Improvement program in Madera got off to an early start with three area meetings and a county-wide meeting. Inspection committees have all been appointed and all burns to be undertaken have been made known. By the middle of April, all the various burns will have been inspected initially by CDF personnel and a group of committeemen and the individual landowners. Unless some changes occur there will be some 15,000 acres burned for Range Improvement during the 1955 season. Most of the area to be burned has been burned before. There are several new projects being undertaken however.

This past winter has seen considerable activity in logging digger pine in the foothills of Madera County. Different ranchers have been approached to sell their stumpage. The local landowners have mixed feelings in regard to the use of digger pine for lumber. Some of them are glad to get rid of it at any cost. Others are now aware it may have more value than is realized, and are being careful in trying to get a price for it. Yet others would like to sell it or give it away to get rid of it, but they are afraid of the damage to the decomposed granite soil that may result from logging the bull pines. Some ranchers are continuing with their program of killing the trees by use of chemicals and letting nature and fire dispose of them. The practice of poisoning is now starting to be applied to liveoaks as well as bull pine. The poison is generally applied with a hatchet or axe and a squirt can.

All rural schools in Madera and Western Merced Counties were given various types of programs during Conservation Week. All Assistant Rangers and some of the foremen were kept busy on this program. We have had considerable requests for the song sheets, "Smokey the Bear." The younger children seem to have taken readily to this song.

Next month we may have a report to make on a lot more interesting subject perhaps, than any of the above chatter for our "Champeen" fisherman, Associate Ranger Brad Williams took some vacation and went fishing in or around Lake Mead - Lucky Stiff!

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

NEW PROBLEMS IN FIRE PREVENTION

The modern sourdough prospector armed with his Geiger counter or scintillator and mineral lamp is on the prowl in search of the coveted mineral..uranium. His travels are usually up draws, steep canyons and places where jeeps and horses can't travel. In fact, he is really out in the wilderness. The question is, is he a menace to the forests and ranges of California, if not properly informed? Will the hot summer days dim his vision and stop his travels?

On one occasion the sourdough was observed armed with a few blocks of T.N.T., caps, and a detonator, along with his usual paraphernalia. During fire season he is really a potential. Is there some way we could get the manufacturing companies to stamp a few good rules of woodsmanship in a conspicuous place on each instrument?

The old time prospector has never been a problem as a whole, for he usually carried the necessary equipment to extinguish a small fire. Also, he was usually a prospector by choice, mainly because he loved the outdoors. He knew what he was looking for, and where to look. However, the same does not hold true for the modern one. It had become a fad or form of recreation, based on the love of that filthy lucre, and the belief the next rock

may ring the bell. How can we best contact him in his travels and keep him on our side of the fence?

Willard R. Haley
Assistant State Forest Ranger

WHO SAYS PEOPLE DON'T TRAVEL IN DISTRICT IV

Some of these fellows moved about long enough ago that the occurrence might be considered history, rather than news. However, they all have friends who are interested in their movements so here is what they have been up to.

In reviewing Tulare County's winter work plans, it became evident that enough manpower was not on hand locally to complete the work. This was brought to Deputy Metcalf's attention, and he kicked over a few -- you know what! and rolled out the following, "Volunteers", to help us out.

F.F.F. Paul Moreland, Madera - Merced

F.F.F. Joe Netherton, Western Fresno

F.F.F. Lester Rowe, Mariposa

F.F.F. Francis Dooley, Lassen County

(Francis actually was an appointee to Fresno County, loaned to Tulare.) He never even slowed down, going through Fresno - fast action, huh?

Shorty Prichat, one of our highly esteemed cooks, found it necessary to do his bit in contributing to the high moral of the CYA wards at Mariposa, this winter. Shorty had quite a time making it back to his regular stomping grounds at Porterville, but he and Bill Davis effected a trade in assignment the weekend of the 12-13 of March. Bill recently came to District IV from District VI and did a very fine job at Porterville for us, during his short stay there.

Along with the above mentioned men, Clifford C. Hamilton, of Fresno, took a promotion to Schedule A Foreman in Tulare.

F.F.F. Art Averill returned to his old hangout at Hammond, from Western Fresno.

Roy Gadbury recently accepted a promotion from F.F.F. Tulare, to F.W.P.F. at Coalinga, Fresno County. To fill this hole F.F.F. Frank Kirk was persuaded to come in out of the hills and be a city man for awhile at Dinuba, where he has a 1A fire truck and 2,500 gallon tanker, etc., to operate under the supervision of Assistant Ranger Ed Poe. The most recent personnel movement here was the re-appointment from Santa Clara County as F.F.F. Tulare, of Dick Tucker, whom we are happy to have with us.

John Rosar
Associate Ranger

TULARE COUNTY

CONSERVATION WEEK: Conservation Week in Tulare County is quite an assignment, due to the many schools and the congested area in this county. The efforts of 11 field men were spread over a three-week period. Fifty-six programs were put on before the public schools using 14 films, with 12,944 people in attendance at these programs. Assistant Ranger Miralles attended the Fish and Game banquet at Tulare, with a number of the local sportsmen present, showing a film of conservation nature, plus a well prepared talk by Miralles. Assistant Ranger Goldsmith was the speaker at a Grange meeting in Springville on related problems of rural fire protection and prevention - this program being primarily a fire prevention program. Assistant Ranger Matheson should have been twins, trying to conduct a training program in Woodlake and a conservation program before the Lindsay Junior High School

on March 16. Assistant Ranger Bob Voss had an assignment above the Mason-Dixon line in Tulare County, in assisting Ed Poe in the Orosi-Dinuba Elementary School District, on March 22. Assistant Ranger Palmer White was very fortunate in planning a vacation at this time of year. He can be counted on to miss this type of assignment. Assistant Ranger Crosby did not stray from his district in the conservation program and kept pretty much to himself, and we will have to take his word for his efforts in conservation work. Foreman Don Riggs was very helpful in his efforts in the conservation week program. He had an assignment at the Bartlett school in Porterville, an afternoon session before some 300 eighth grade pupils, doing a very nice job. Of course, Don is an old hand at this type of work, as he is quite a fire prevention conscious sort of fellow, anyway. In the past he has been very helpful in Fire Prevention programs in the Porterville "A" District. I understand the grapevine has it that Bill Haley was about to miss out on the Conservation Week, except for his little brood at Badger, until Associate Ranger Rosar found out that Bill was one of the best speakers in this county, and, of course, got busy and made several assignments for Bill, which I understand, he handled very ably. All in all, as in the past, we have taken a very active part in the conservation programs in this county, as we feel that there is a great need for, and a challenge in putting this information before the school children, as well as the adult public.

TRAINING PROGRAMS

A training program was held at the Woodlake station on March 16 and 17, with some 50 forestry personnel attending. The program was opened by Ranger Mann, who gave us a very enlightening talk regarding the over-all problems in Schedule "A", and our forestry problems in this county, stressing the importance of training programs. The subjects covered in the programs were: Personnel Management, Public Relations, Structural Fire-fighting, Property and Equipment, Accountability, Filing Complaints and Trial Procedures, Map Reading and Land Measurements, Safety in Driving, and Work Habits, Preparation and Submission of Reports, Board of Review on the Davis Fire of the past season, Permit Technicalities, Operation Fire Stop, Fire Weather, Development of Initiative and Creation of Self Reliance. The instructors headed by Ranger Mann, Associate Rangers Rosar and Arnold, Assistant Rangers: Goldsmith, Voss, Haley, and Matheson; Dispatchers Schonher, and Shafer. We were very fortunate in having District Attorney Robert Haden speak to us on Fire Complaints and Trial Procedures. The District office's contribution toward this program was our good friend's, Dick Rafferty, Fire Prevention Officer, with a very enlightening talk on permit technicalities, and Forest Technician Dean Schlobohm, covering the use of aerial photos. Dick Miralles provided the entertainment for the evening of March 16 in showing a film of the wild life in Alaska. In this program we tried to include as many of the Schedule "A" personnel as we possibly could afford. I feel one of the highlights of the training program was a number of slides shown by Miralles on Operation Firestop.

I would like to take this opportunity in the News Letter to say thanks to Shorty Prichat, our cook, for the fine meals served us. I am sure Foreman McKinney and Project Foreman Cherry will be on a diet for the next 30 days.

OIL TRAINING SCHOOL

The Oil Fire Training School held in Bakersfield, March 24, 25, 26, sponsored by State Board of Education Fire Training, Kern County Fire Department, and Western Oil and Gas Association was attended by Assistant Rangers Ed Poe, Eucl Goldsmith, and Driver Ed Brown, from this county. The feeling of the fellows that attended the program was that this was one of the best programs of this type that we have attended. Of course, we are looking forward to a review and program presented to the county by those fellows attending from this county.

FIRE EQUIPMENT

We received a new fire truck for Schedule "A" work, March 18, on International R-186 chassis, having 145 H.P. rating, 500 gallon booster tank, 600 g.p.m. Hale midship pump, also a 4 stage centrifugal multi-fog power takeoff, hose bed space for 1400' $2\frac{1}{2}$ " double jacket fire hose, 500 foot of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ", and an electric rewind reel for high pressure hose. I understand that the firemen at Porterville are in the height of their glory as they have wind that this truck will be stationed at Porterville. We are looking forward to the delivery in the near future of two additional fire trucks being built on the same type chassis, although having a Chrysler-Hale pump.

Euel Goldsmith
Assistant Ranger

MORE FROM TULARE COUNTY

We, of Tulare County, were greatly saddened by the untimely passing of FFF Elmer Simpson, on the evening of April 6th. "Snuffy", as we knew him, began work with the Division in 1950 as a driver and promoted to foreman in 1954. Snuffy, age 26, was stricken suddenly, in the evening, and died within the hour, leaving behind a very fine family - a wife and 3 children. We will long remember Snuffy as one of our finest friends and most promising young employees.

On the brighter side of life, Assistant Ranger Ed Poe and wife, Lorraine, brought us another young fire fighter this month; as usual, the mother and baby boy are doing better than the proud papa. In a neck and neck race, FTD Bill Owen and wife, Salley, came in first though, with a replacement in the office of our girl Friday, Janice Benita, in future years. All members of the trio doing well.

Our good friend, Orval Schonher, was recently observed in a local jewelry store, fitting engagement rings, which comes as quite a surprise, because he was the guy who wasn't going to fall. We expect to have more to offer on Orval in a subsequent issue.

DISTRICT V

Fire Prevention Officer Pewtherer has had an extra heavy work load making up kits of fire prevention material for interested young conservationists who wrote him the latter part of March.

Of the approximately 50 letters received from grade school children, most of which were carefully written requests for fire prevention material for use in connection with school and club activities, the following little gems seem too good to keep to ourselves:

"Dear Gentlemen

"Our class is studying forestry for science and I would appreciate if you could send me some information on the subject.

'thank you'

Miss - - - - - "

"Dear Sir,

"It would be xteremly helpful if you could me somethings on Forestry. I understand what Forestry and all the other things that go withit like, Wildlife. I know that I can help the forests by telling my friends and they can tell there friends about forestry. Thank you for your kind help and consideration.

"Sincerely
Stepheni-----"

"Dear Sir,

"WOULD YOU PLEASE SEND ME A GUIDE TO GREEN AMERICA. I am six years old
and I am president of my Hector bear club

"Sincerely

yours

"Jeff - - - - "

"Dear Sir:

"Please send two of every thing about forestry.

"Thank you

"Diana - - - - - "

"Dear Sirs:

"Please send Me a folder on conservation. My class at school is studying
it and I would apprechete If you would send me one. Please send me
~~deuble~~ triple of everything

"Thank you very much

"Robert - - - - - "

"I would like the folder. A girl in my room brought one to school. She
was the one who got me thinking so that's my story.

"Thank you

"Billy - - - - - "

One typist sent this on a torn scrap of paper:

"Dear Sir,

Please send me some things from your Division.

I would thank you very much.

"Thank you,

r

"Since~~x~~ely

"Judy - - - - - "

"P.S. Sorry so messy."

The interest shown in conservation of California's natural resources by the
youngsters in our schools is most gratifying. It is a tribute to the work done by
California Division of Forestry personnel in promoting good public relations, and the
fine advertising campaign they have developed.

Ruth E. Smith
Intermediate-Stenographer-Clerk

LETTER TO RANGER AUSTIN

"Just a few lines, to let you know how much we appreciated the willingness and assistance shown and given by you and your employees last Tuesday night and very early Wednesday morning, when we called you concerning the two Watsonville boys who got lost on the return to Bear Gulch from Chalone Peak. You evidently train your men to be ready for anything, and then to expect it!

"We are very grateful, and we hope that you will invest each of the two men who drove up Chalone Peak that night and made the two-hour search up there with a specially tailored halo, to them from us!

"Sincerely yours,

s/ Earl Jackson, Superintendent
Pinnacles National Monument"

THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT

Thou shalt inherit the holy earth as a faithful steward, conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation, and protect thy hills from over grazing by the herds, that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land, thy fruitful fields shall become sterile stony ground and wasting gullies, and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or perish from off the face of the earth.

(Contribution of Monterey County)

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

There was some misleading information printed in last month's News Letter. Somebody goofed! A nine pound boy arrived for Dispatcher and Mrs. Sam Garza on January 26 - not a girl as we had stated they were expecting. This is the second boy for the Garza's - another fire fighter, claims Sam. Sam sure had a hard time satisfying everybody with a cigar; he never had enough.

On February 13 Ranger and Mrs. George Britton departed on a long-deserved vacation. The last we heard from them they were in Globe, Arizona, headed for that enchanted land of Mexico for "the first lesson in Spanish." We certainly hope they have a good time.

That "hospitality city" of San Jose does it again! CSEA chose San Jose for its 25th General Council Convention held February 19-20. Twenty-one hotels and motels were filled to capacity accommodating over 800 delegates and guests who came from all parts of the state. Representatives from Santa Clara County Division of Forestry employees who took part in making it a great success were Sam Garza, Jack Skeels, and Bill Reed. They report that they gained a lot from this convention and are now much more familiar with the working operations and functions of CSEA and its interest in state employees.

Dorothy Magioncalda
Intermediate Stenographer-clerk

DISTRICT VI

District VI personnel converged recently on a sliced bull at the Annual Dinner-Dance, hosted this year by the Riverside County stumpjumpers. It was a good one - marred only by the fact that Associat Ranger Ray Banks ran low on "Sven says" stories while the

kitchen facilities eked out the slices. Note to the next County Host: "Loan your Fire Camp to the Restaurant."

While mentioning Riverside County, we might add that there will be no more campaign fires in that county for several years. It has long been a lament that five of their ten state fire trucks were underpowered Internationals. The frames have just been saddled with engines of 29 or more horses so initial attack should really improve now. The County has also just received two new County-purchased Ford V-8 170 horsepower fire trucks loading 750 gallons.

Unofficially, fire season is on again. 145 acres of heavy brush went out yesterday near Rainbow and today, 40 acres went out in the Volcans near Julian. Humidity was about 20 yesterday and Sleuth Norm Harris crackled, "Burned just like June or July." If our normal April foggy weather is in order again this year, we'll Fire School at Ramona in mid-month. Likewise for May, we'll collect with all the Forestry agencies of the Southern California Association of Foresters & Fire Wardens' two-day session at the Laguna Mountains Shriners Camp.

Gone from our midst is FWPF Keith Schrader, even though he passed the recent CDC Supervisor examination. He has left Oak Glen CDC for a partnership business in an Eastern State. Good luck, Keth.

We hear rumors that the precipitation runoff this year will be slightly below normal in Districts I through IV. Down in VI, it is slightly above nothing for April and then down to August normal the remainder of the year. In accordance, trout season early (April 16) in San Diego County, just before the last finned Croaker rolled over. To quote Fish & Game, "water conditions are so poor that six of the faltering streams probably will not be planted again this year." The above is all by way of introduction that we went on Fire Season again April 16th.

Firebreaks are being built in all directions down here. One wide one, along the San Diego County - Mexican border, several roads along the boundaries of Cuyamaca State Park, another firebreak north and running west of Lake Arrowhead. All this to save what didn't burn in 1950 and 1954. As for Cuyamaca, we have now planted over 55,000 young trees within the Park.

We have just finished the District Fire School. One of the high points was furnished by the Weather Bureau. It was this: Our District embraces land lying between minus 240 and 11,000 feet with cool ocean air trying to rush in on one side and hot desert air on the other trying to push in plus 10,000 valleys and canyons each developing their own local winds. Thus, a 70-word forecast hardly covers the situation in detail. Accordingly, we will have to learn the forecasting trade a little and our own baily-wick a lot and then make spot forecasts for each new fire as they start.

Another point brought out by Dr. Keith Arnold of the University of California was that in one acre of Scrub Oak, (late summer) there is about 2,000 gallons of water. From this fact, we have a new challenge to master: How to draft from the Scrub Oak so as to extinguish the fire in it. We feel that ^{the} 2,000 gallons should do the trick.

One of the last San Bernardino confirmed bachelors has made a complete reversal of stand. Although we are reluctant to put anyone on the spot, he has knowingly violated all of his old teachings, therefore, we announce with heartiest congratulations that Chuck Sweetwood has taken unto himself a wife!

District Headquarters now has a standard frequency home type radio which is to be monitored continuously by the Dispatcher on the Conelrad frequencies for Civil Defense warnings. It just so happens that KFI on that frequency gives hours of Soap Operas and

how we hate them! The other station gives lots of dance recordings so don't be surprised at anything you hear down this way when the District Headquarters mike is open!

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

GEIGER COUNTERS PUT TO PRACTICAL WORK IN ORANGE COUNTY

On March 23, 1955, our Headquarters Office received an urgent call from the Orange County Office of Civil Defense advising us that there was an airplane at the Orange County Airport, believed to be radio-active. This plane had flown from the Las Vegas area through a radio-active area which was the result of an A-Bomb explosion earlier in the morning which had been set off by the Atomic Energy Commission.

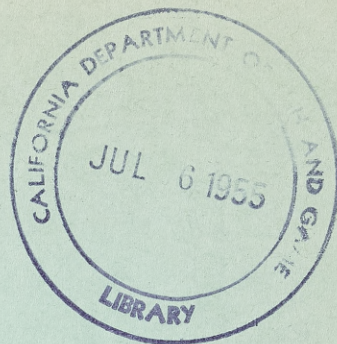
Assistant Ranger Custer was immediately dispatched to the scene with his trusty Geiger Counter and he found that the ship was "hot", although not dangerously so. A fire-truck with a high pressure pump was dispatched and with assistance from the Orange County Airport's personnel, the ship was washed down and decontaminated. All of our key men have received radiological training and this was the first time we had occasion to put it into practical use. We sincerely hope that should our monitoring equipment be used again, it will not be for any purpose more serious than this one.

J. A. Scherman
State Forest Ranger

A recent request for information regarding jobs in the Division of Forestry, addressed to the Director of Natural Resources, states in part: "All my life this Forestry has been a ambition to me. I myself may never attain the position in which you hold, but I will feel that it was worth the trials an tribulations. So keep me in mind that you may be doing a great favor to yourself as well as for the State of California."

6
*State of
California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY



NEWS LETTER

MAY - JUNE
1955
VOL. 14 NO 5 & 6



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER



Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

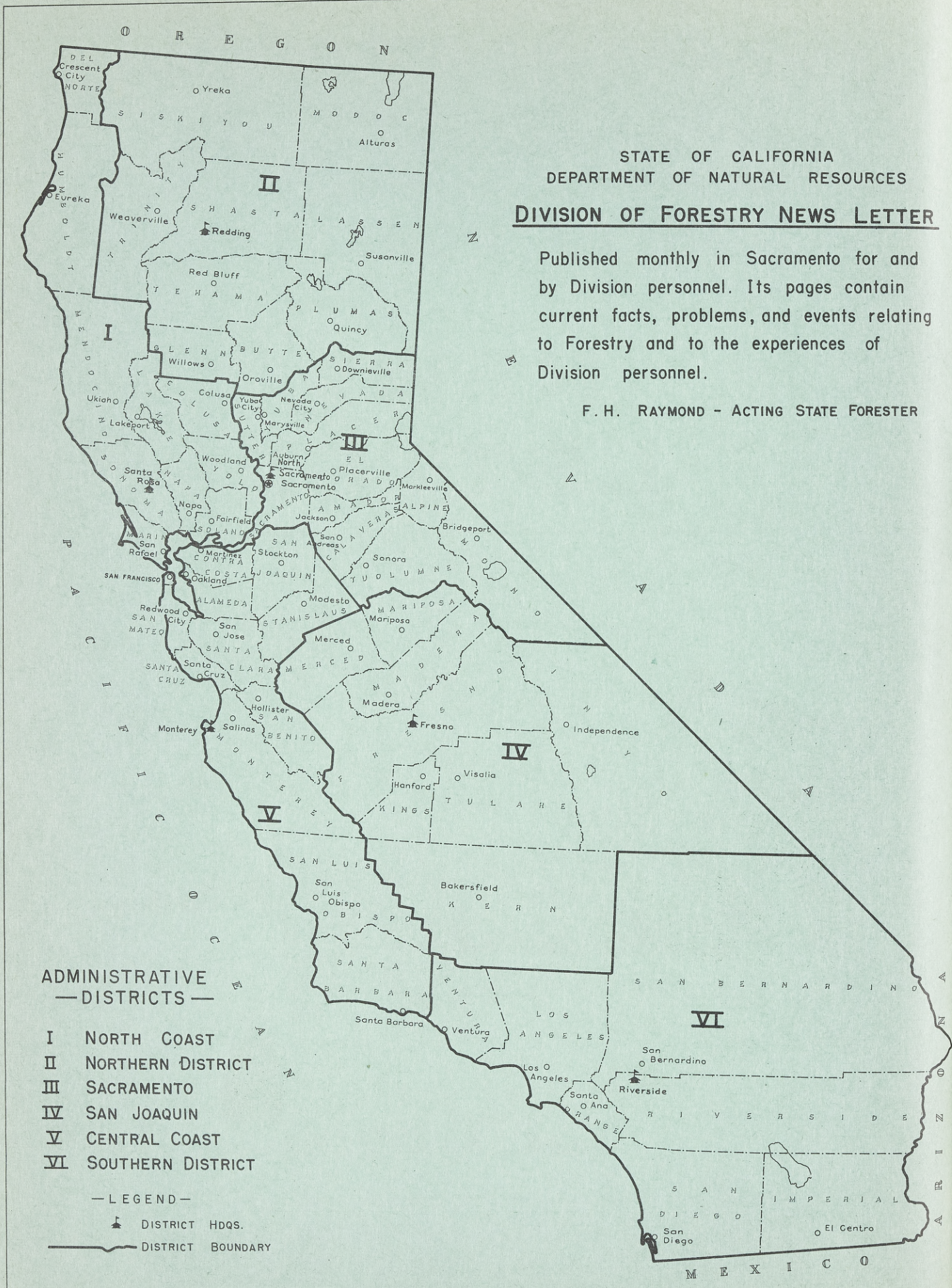
F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER

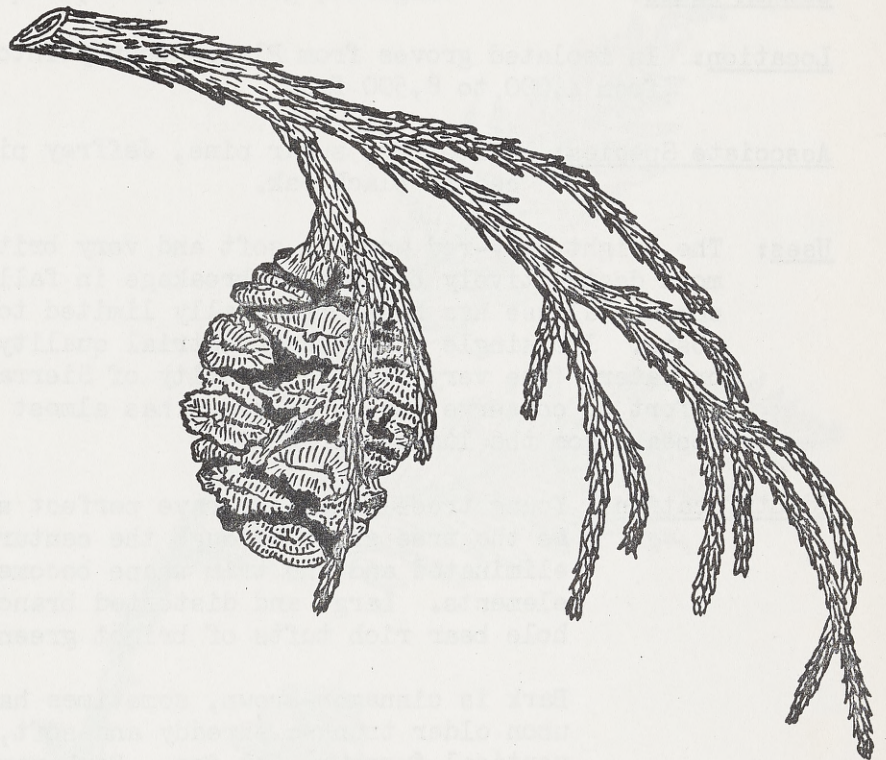
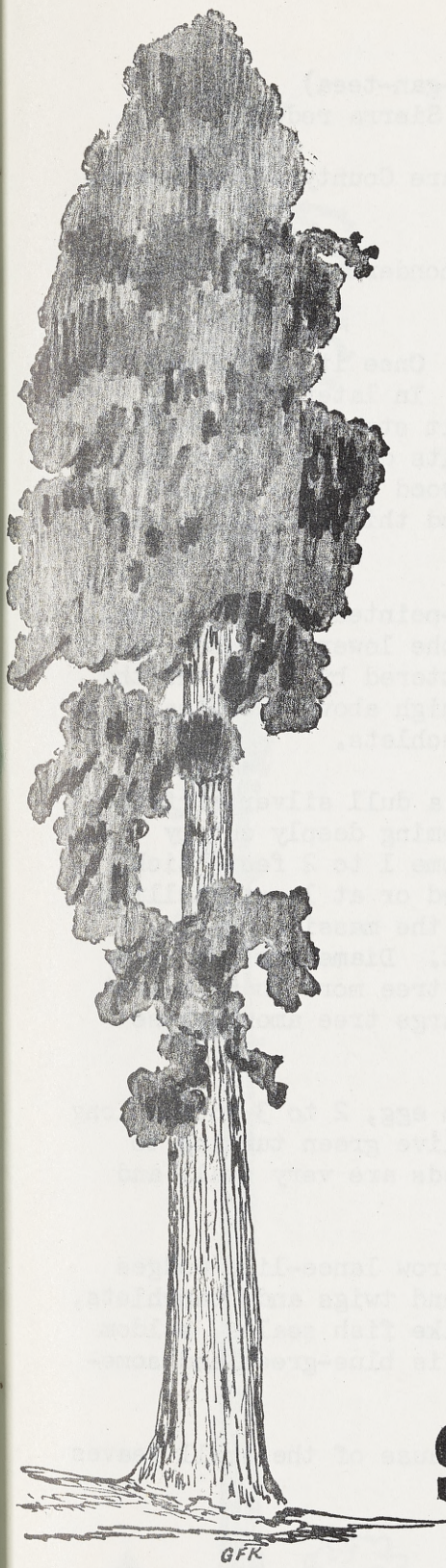
**ADMINISTRATIVE
—DISTRICTS—**

- I NORTH COAST
- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

—LEGEND—

-  DISTRICT HDQS.
-  DISTRICT BOUNDARY





SIERRA REDWOOD

SIERRA REDWOOD

Scientific Name: Sequoia gigantea (suh-kWoy-ya-ji-gan-teea)
Common Names: bigtree, giant sequoia, sequoia, Sierra redwood.

Location: In isolated groves from Placer County into Tulare County at elevations from 4,000 to 8,500 feet.

Associate Species: White fir, sugar pine, Jeffrey pine, ponderosa pine, incense cedar, black oak.

Uses: The bright rosy-red wood is soft and very brittle. Once it was logged most destructively because of breakage in falling. In later years its commercial use has been practically limited to split stakes, shakes and posts. Its single superior industrial quality is its durability in soil or water. The very limited quantity of Sierra redwood and the popular effort to conserve the large trees has almost caused this species to disappear from the lumber market.

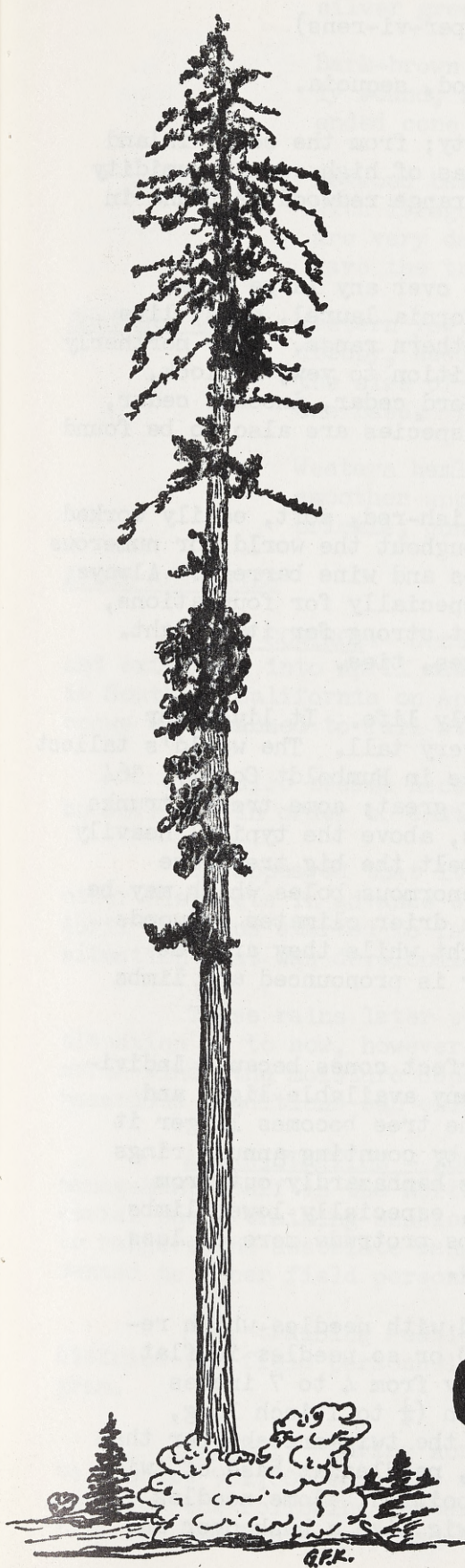
Identification: Young trees generally have perfect sharp-pointed conical shape. As the tree grows through the centuries the lower branches are eliminated and the trim shape becomes battered by years and the elements. Large and distorted branches high above the clear hole bear rich tufts of bright green branchlets.

Bark is cinnamon-brown, sometimes having a dull silver surface upon older trunks; shreddy and soft, becoming deeply cut by vertical furrows with age. Bark may become 1 to 2 feet thick. Base of the older trees heavily buttressed or at least swelling well out near the ground to help support the massive trunks. Tallest trees approach 300 feet in height. Diameters are said to have measured nearly 30 feet, but any tree more than 10 feet through, above the base swelling, is a large tree among these largest and oldest living things.

Cones are size and shape of small chicken egg, 2 to 3 inches long and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, olive green turning to dull brown, with blunt-ended scales. Seeds are very small and only slightly winged.

Needles are shaped like sharp awls or narrow lance-like wedges growing close against and completely around twigs and branchlets, needles actually over-lapping somewhat like fish scales, seldom more than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long. Color of needles is blue-green and sometimes bright green.

Confused with: possibly cedars, cypresses or junipers because of the small leaves growing against the twigs.



COAST REDWOOD

COAST REDWOOD

Scientific Name: *Sequoia sempervirens* (suh-kwoy-ya-semper-vi-rens)

Common Names: Redwood, Coast redwood, California redwood, sequoia.

Location: From Southern Oregon to San Luis Obispo County; from the ocean inland 20 miles or 35 at most. Thrives only in areas of high summer humidity and plentiful rainfall. At edge of natural range redwood is found in protected gulches or on cool slopes.

Associate Species: Rarely found without tree neighbors over any large area. Douglas fir, madrone, tanoak, California laurel, coast live oak are common neighbors in the southern range. More northerly these same species are found in addition to yew, hemlock, spruce, lowland white fir, Port Orford cedar, incense cedar, chinquapin. Many shrub and ground species are also to be found in the typical redwood forest.

Uses: A very valuable lumber tree, famed for its purplish-red, soft, easily worked wood so durable in moist air or soil. Used throughout the world for numerous speciality products from coffins to railroad ties and wine barrels. Always in high demand as trim and structural lumber, especially for foundations, siding and roofing. Not strong structurally, but strong for its weight. Splits easily into straight pickets, rails, shakes, ties.

Identification: Coast redwood grows rapidly in its early life. It lives for centuries and becomes very large and very tall. The world's tallest known tree is the famous Founder's Tree in Humboldt County, 364 feet in height. Diameters are equally great; some trees' trunks have measured more than 20 feet across, above the typical heavily buttressed base. At home in the fog belt the big trees are notable for very little taper up the enormous boles which may be clear of limbs for 50 or 100 feet. In drier climates redwoods seem to reach a moderate, maximum height while they are yet infants of a half century or so; taper is pronounced and limbs droop heavily.

Young trees are rarely shaped like perfect cones because individual limbs so successfully reach for any available light and thus become longer than others. As the tree becomes larger it becomes quite impossible to judge age by counting annual rings (whorls) of limbs since limbs protrude haphazardly out from the trunk. Some limbs droop heavily, especially lower limbs of middle-aged trees, while most limbs protrude more or less horizontally, often with lifting tips.

Branchlets and twigs are well clothed with needles which resemble flat awls. Each twig bears 50 or so needles in flat sprays. Branching twigs are generally from 4 to 7 inches long. Needles are irregular in length ($\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 inch long, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch wide), those at each end of the twig are shorter than those midway on the stem. Generally, needles at base of twig are short, stiff, square, and sharp-pointed. Some needles grow mostly attached along base of twig like a husk over an

COAST REDWOOD

ear of corn. Upper side of needle is dark green, under side silver green, the tip with small prickle.

Dark-brown cones grow at end of branchlets. Cones are practically round, being about 1 inch long and 3/4 inch wide. Blunt-ended cone scales open to drop very small and wingless seeds.

Redwood bark is 8 to 12 inches thick, soft appearing and shreddy with irregular deep furrows up and down the trunk. Older trunks are very dark brown while younger trees have red brown bark that gave the tree its common name. Inner bark is cinnamon-red colored.

Confused with: Western yew, which has thin papery, purplish bark, branches more droopy, needles more prickly at ends, fruit a scarlet, soft disc the size of a dime. Several yew stems generally always rise from one base. Yew is rarely over 20 or 30 feet high.

Western hemlock has slight resemblance except that bark has harder smoother appearance, branchlets more drooping, needles without end prickle, cone scales thin.

APRIL ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Continued drouth conditions throughout the month of March and extending into April made it necessary to declare the opening of fire season in Southern California on April 16 and because many fires were occurring daily, all crews were manned to full strength on that date.

It also became necessary to employ fire truck drivers for District IV on April 15 in order to control fires that were occurring in that District.

It appeared that it would become necessary to man some crews in all other districts in advance of the normal May 1 fire season date, however, on April 16 rains started to fall on the North Coast and alleviated the hazardous situation that was developing in the slash areas of that district.

These rains later spread over Northern California and have eased the fire situation up to now, however, if these storms are followed by several days of high north wind, the moisture deposited by the rains will soon disappear and fire hazardous conditions can exist within a week's time.

ADMINISTRATION - FOREST AND RANGE MANAGEMENT: Members of the forest management staff in the North Coast District prepared and conducted a four-day aerial photo training session on the Boggs Mountain State Forest which was given to rangers and associate rangers. Two more sessions of this course will be presented to other field personnel during May.

Four training sessions were also conducted during the month in this same district for field personnel in matters pertaining to the forest management program.

NURSERY: During April seed was sown at the Ben Lomond Branch Nursery to produce 931,000 conifers and 305,000 hardwood seedlings. The seedbeds were sown for the following numbers of conifers: 160,000 white fir; 310,000 Douglas fir; 100,000 Monterey pine; 110,000 incense cedar; 64,000 Arizona cypress, and

in lesser quantities Coulter, Aleppo, pinion, Bishop, Scotch, and beach pine.

Trees grown from this sowing will be available during 1956-57 planting season. Some of the hardwoods will be available this coming planting season as 1-0 stock. The seeding of the Parlin Fork and Magalia Branch Nurseries has been delayed because of weather and soil conditions.

REFORESTATION: The Division in its program to encourage reforestation provided technical assistance last month for a planting project in the Shaver Lake area in Fresno County, in which 1,000 two-year old Jeffrey pine seedlings purchased from the state forest nurseries were planted. The project sponsored by the Clovis American Legion was originally started in 1954. A larger number of trees will be planted in future years if these plantings prove successful.

During the month of April 5,000 two-year old ponderosa pine seedlings were planted on 10 acres at the Forest Ranch Fire Control Station Demonstration Forest in Butte County. Inmate labor from the Forestry Work Camp at Magalia was used to do the planting.

STATE FORESTS: Chopping on the current timber sale awarded to Union Lumber Company last fall on the Jackson State Forest is in progress. To date approximately 2.3 million board feet of timber has been cut. Logging has been intermittent due to inclement weather.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Careful weight records are being maintained on yearling heifers grazing on the Spring Dell Range Study Area this season. These records will permit us to establish trends of livestock weights from the time cattle are placed on green feed until the forage has dried.

A number of ranchers in the South Coast counties took advantage of the long, dry period this spring to do a considerable amount of brush clearing on range lands.

The present outlook is for considerably less activity in controlled burning on the east side of the San Joaquin Valley than during last season. The prolonged period without rain this spring curtailed the forage crop to such an extent that many ranchers will have to forego burns originally planned for this year.

A report on "The Range Improvement Program of the California Division of Forestry" was presented at the Cooperative Forestry Conference in Carson City, on April 7th. This conference was attended by State Foresters or their representatives, and members of the U. S. Forest Service from eight of the western states. They were very much interested in the range improvement activity in California.

Range Improvement personnel spent two days in Humboldt County during the month assisting in the selection of field locations and developing plans for a training session for technical personnel in the uses of soil-vegetation maps. This training session, to be held in May, will be followed by two one-day tours for ranchers in Southern Humboldt County, during which these surveys and their uses will be explained on the ground. The Agricultural Extension Service and Department of Forestry of Humboldt County are sponsoring the training session

and tours; they are being assisted by the California Division of Forestry and the staff of the Soil-Vegetation Survey.

ENGINEERING: Work will soon be started on Bridgeville Fire Control Station in Humboldt County. This station consists of an equipment building, combination barracks and messhall and an assistant ranger's residence.

Work is progressing on Hillcrest Fire Control Station in Shasta County. This project consists of remodeling the barracks from four-man into a nine-man station.

Survey work has been started on the new C.D.C. camp in Calaveras County. This will be an 80-man camp.

Work on the grading and water system at Mt. Bullion C.Y.A. Camp in Mariposa County is progressing satisfactorily.

Soquel Fire Control Station in Santa Cruz County is nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy by this coming fire season.

MAY ACTIVITIES

FIRE PREVENTION: The executive committee of the California Fire Prevention Committee, sponsored by the Division of Forestry, the U. S. Forest Service, and County Forestry Departments, met in San Francisco and Los Angeles on May 19 and 20, respectively, to develop ways and means of intensifying the state-wide forest fire prevention educational campaign. Action taken by the executive committee will result in greater participation in the cooperative work by industry, business, and organizational groups during the present summer fire season. The committee also presented awards for outstanding public service in forest fire prevention to the Bank of America and the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company.

FIELD ACTIVITY: At the local level forest fire prevention education and hazard reduction work by ranger units was stepped up in all parts of the state during the month in an effort to keep summer fire losses at an absolute minimum.

FIRE CONTROL: Rains occurring in the last two weeks of April delayed the opening of the summer fire season in Northern California. During the last ten days of May, however, continued north winds accelerated the drying out of vegetation and many small fires occurred but were suppressed before reaching 500 acres. Present indications point to a severe fire season this summer. April rains made it possible to hold down recruiting in the fire fighter class until the last two weeks of May. Except for the Southern California district, summer-time fire crews were not on duty and the fire load was handled entirely by year-long employees and crews from forestry honor camps.

ENGINEERING: The site for the C.D.C. spike camp out of Vallecito C.D.C. camp in Calaveras County has been selected near the South Grove in Calaveras Big Trees State Park. The name of this spike camp will be Beaver Creek Camp.

FOREST PRACTICES: The South Sierra Forest Practice Committee held a meeting in San Bernardino on May 17, 1955. The meeting was called in response to local interest on the part of timber operators, owners, and others to have developed for Southern California special practices pertaining to cutting requirements and slash disposal. The discussions revealed that problems peculiar to this area

because of high recreational use of forested lands, insect hazards, and critical fire problems justify such action. The committee requested further study of the proposal and appointed a local group of owners, operators, fire specialists, and other citizens to develop some specific recommendations for further consideration of the South Sierra Forest Practice Committee. After the meeting the committee and others concerned toured the Wrightwood area to observe some of the problems in the field. On the following day a similar field trip was made to the Barton Flat area, Big Bear Lake, Arrowhead, and Crestline vicinities.

TIMBER TAXATION: The timber maturity board held an adjourned meeting in Eureka on May 4, 1955, to consider other young growth timber stands brought to the attention of the maturity board by the assessor of Humboldt County at a previous meeting held on February 9, 1955. This board is provided for by Section 12 3/4 of the State Constitution to determine the maturity of young growth timber for assessment purposes. This law prescribes that young growth timber is not subject to taxation until at least 40 years have elapsed since harvest of the original timber or planting, and when the maturity of that timber is established. Mr. Wendell T. Robie, Vice Chairman of the Board of Forestry, serves on this maturity board, along with a representative from the Board of Equalization, and the local assessor. At this adjourned meeting, the maturity of young growth timber on some 14 properties was determined. Considerable harvesting of young growth timber on these lands has made the timber subject to taxation.

STATE FORESTS: Union Lumber Company was awarded the sale of 100,000 board feet of salvaged windfall and road right-of-way logs along the West Chamberlain Road on the Jackson State Forest when sealed bids were opened in Fort Bragg on May 12. The 80,000 board feet of redwood and 20,000 feet of Douglas fir were bought for a sum of \$2,110.00 and must be removed from the Forest within 30 days.

NURSERY: During the month of May, the Parlin Fork and Magalia nurseries were seeded to produce 3,555,000 trees. At the Parlin Ford Nursery the quantities and species sown were 1,072,000 Douglas fir, 367,000 coast redwood and small amounts of sweet gum, beach, bishop, and Monterey pine for a total of 1,499,000 trees. Seedlings to be produced at the Magalia Nursery are 1,000,000 white fir, 550,000 ponderosa pine, 200,000 Jeffrey pine, 160,000 sugar pine, 60,000 Douglas fir, and 5,000 red fir for a total of 2,060,000 trees. This planting stock will be available for sale as 2 year old seedlings during the 1956-57 planting season.

The selling season for planting stock from the state forest nurseries was closed in May. Between May and November the nursery will not attempt to ship trees. Most of the trees during this period are in the growing stage and to move trees at this stage would be too much of a shock and the results obtained from plantings would not be satisfactory.

SERVICE FORESTRY: Two new instructional sheets were issued by the Small Woodlands Council to acquaint small timber landowners with good practices to follow in the care of their forests and information to help the landowner in recognition and control of bark beetles attacking his timber.

Representatives of the Division participated in the meeting of Christmas Tree growers on May 12 and 13 in Placerville, at which time many problems of growing Christmas trees were discussed. Christmas tree plantations in the vicinity of Placerville were visited and a tour of the Forest Genetic Institute was made with emphasis being placed on new strains of pine trees for high quality

Christmas trees.

INSECT CONTROL: A forest insect survey of the Douglas fir bark beetle infestation in eastern Humboldt County was conducted by the Division of Insect Investigation of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station during the past month. Division of Forestry personnel participated in this survey. The results of this survey will be forthcoming soon. This infestation was first surveyed by helicopter in November, 1954. This year's survey was a ground check of the area involving 54,000 acres, 22,000 private land, and 32,000 acres of National Forest land.

BLISTER RUST: The State Board of Forestry at its April 20, 1955, meeting appointed a committee consisting of three members of the Board to review the matter of what shall be the long range state policy in regard to state participation in the control of blister rust on state and private lands. The committee held a public hearing on May 11, 1955, to hear testimony from all interested parties. Representatives of sugar pine landowners, University of California, California Forest and Range Experiment Station, U. S. Forest Service, and Division of Forestry participated in this meeting. From the evidence presented at this meeting the committee will prepare a proposed policy to be presented to the State Board of Forestry at its scheduled meeting on June 17, 1955.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Range Improvement personnel from the North Coast and the Sacramento office participated in a training session on uses of soil-vegetation survey information, held at Garberville during May 10-12th.

Sprout growth on a 40-acre portion of the Rescue Range Study Area in El Dorado County, was sprayed with herbicides by aircraft on May 9th. This is a continuation of a cooperative study of methods of brush control by aircraft spraying by the California Division of Forestry and the Botany Department of the University of California at Davis.

FORESTRY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR WINS \$25

Ray H. Bryant, San Bernardino, was awarded \$25 by the Merit Award Board at its regular May meeting for designing a spare-tire carrier for use on Foster Tilt-bed trailer transports. His idea has been adopted by the Division as part of the specifications on future purchases. Drawings have been sent to the field with specific recommendations for equipping present fleet units. In recommending this award, the Merit Award Board praised the suggester for his safety suggestion and expressed pleasure in considering his excellent presentation of the idea.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

PERSONNEL

The past two months have been busy ones for the personnel office. In addition to the regular seasonal increase in fire control and clerical appointments, the following appointments have been made:

As announced in a news release recently issued, Francis H. Raymond has been promoted from Chief Deputy State Forester to State Forester.

Edward E. Bailey was appointed Associate Ranger in the Fire Control office, to fill the position which was formerly at the Assistant Technician level. He was formerly Assistant Technician in Farm Forestry, District III.

James E. Greig, Assistant Technician District III, has been transferred from Range Improvement to Farm Forestry to fill in behind Ed Bailey.

Norman Dal Porto, formerly a Forest Fire Fighter Foreman and a Trainee in District III, has been appointed Assistant Technician for Range Improvement, also District III, to replace Jim Greig.

Robert R. Carey, Associate Ranger, has left the District III headquarters office to take the Associate position in Eldorado County, left vacant by the transfer of Associate Ranger Charles Wagener to the Sacramento office earlier this year.

Deane L. Bennett, former Associate Ranger in Placer County, has been brought into the District III headquarters office to replace Bob Carey.

Associate Ranger Allen J. Hayes transferred from Nevada County to Placer County, replacing Deane Bennett.

Marion W. Steele, former Associate Ranger in Siskiyou County was transferred to Nevada County to fill in behind Jimmy Hayes.

District I made a general shift of several Assistant Rangers: Frank Quadro went from Napa to Lake County; Dawson Feathers from Sonoma to Napa County; Donald L. Striepeke from Humboldt to Sonoma County; Denver P. Wood from Lake to Humboldt County.

Frederick R. Cain and James D. Whitlock, both Forest Fire Fighter Foremen, have been assigned to Trainee positions in District VI.

Clarence W. Mason has been appointed Forestry Trainee in District II to replace Layland Friberg who was appointed Assistant Ranger earlier this year. He was formerly a Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in District II

Robert E. Green, former Assistant Ranger in San Diego County, has been appointed Associate Ranger in Siskiyou County, replacing Bill Steele.

Assistant Ranger Richard Casaurang has been transferred from Tehama to Shasta County, filling the vacancy created when Earnest Brown resigned to accept the position of District Forester with the State of Nevada.

George A. Hale has been appointed Assistant Ranger to fill the vacancy in Tehama County. George was formerly a Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in Lake County.

This covers all the personnel changes to date. Watch for your next issue of the News Letter! An unusual number of changes are scheduled for July.

Dorothy Lewis
Personnel Supervisor

THE FOLLOWING IS QUOTED FROM A LETTER WRITTEN BY THE REDWOOD REGION CONSERVATION COUNCIL AND ADDRESSED TO DISTRICT I HEADQUARTERS

"On behalf of the Junior Logging Conference Committee of the Redwood Region Conservation Council, we want to extend to you our warmest appreciation for the splendid assistance and cooperation given by members of your staff in District I of the Division of Forestry.

"The untiring efforts of certain of your men has made it possible to provide the forestry students and 4-H forestry members of the region with what appears to have been the outstanding Junior Logging Conference yet held.

"In particular, may we single out Ranger Charles Campbell and Assistant Ranger Emery Escola of your Mendocino County staff. Their contribution of time and energy was outstanding.

"Forest Technician George Grogan presented one of the highlights of the Conference with his talk/^{on} Job Opportunities in the California State Division of Forestry.'

"The work of the men on your staff is deserving of much credit.

"With warm appreciation,

Sincerely yours,

s/ Harold Robinson, President
s/ R. R. Chaffee, Conference Chairman."

A NEW BOOK "FORESTS OF CALIFORNIA"

The new forest resource reference book "Forests of California" is off the press and available for sale from Document Section, State Printing Plant, 7th & Richards Streets, Sacramento 14, for sixty-two cents (including tax). The Division of Forestry will have no copies available for free distribution to interested educators, students and others, but information copies will be available for all field offices.

The following quote from the book review column of the San Francisco Chronicle, by Joseph Henry Jackson, dated June 23, 1955, is the best way we can think of to tell you how the book is being received.

"...Now and then some department of the State of California comes up with a book or a report that has genuine interest for the average reader. This is to call to your attention the latest of these "Forests of California", just issued by the Department of Natural Resources. It is packed with fascinating information about our forests, their uses, kinds of trees, their locations, information on timber generally, and much else, and is lavishly illustrated with photographs, drawings, and maps. At 60 cents, which is what the state charges, it's a buy."

"Forests of California" represents the work of many persons. The manuscript was reviewed and constructively criticized by representatives from the forest industry, the Division of Forestry, the U. S. Forest Service, The Department of Fish and Game, the University of California, the Department of Education, and high school forestry instructors.

MARIPOSA COUNTY

Work is pushing ahead on the Mount Bullion CYA Camp Project under the direction of Assistant Ranger G. R. "The Bull" Light. The road to the campsite has been finished, graded, and cattle guards placed, and it will soon be ready for the contractors.

Assistant Ranger Bill Shimer and Dispatcher George Carhart are on sick leave at the present time. Trainee Rex Coalson is substituting in the Mariposa office as dispatcher while Trainee Bill Emrie is learning all phases of the work on the Mt. Bullion CYA project.

Foreman Manuel Fratus of the Usona Station is quite proud of his water development project there. Foreman O. M. 'Bud' Sharp is the poor man's lawyer in this county, and is currently serving as a self-appointed human relations counselor on the newly organized Forestry Employee's Association."

Bruce Hufford
State Forest Ranger

TULARE COUNTY

Perhaps the best news release to come out of Tulare County in a long time was the recent release from the Pacific Fire Rating Bureau, which recognized the Division of Forestry's administration of rural fire protection by reducing rural fire insurance rates on habitational occupancies and farm classes from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 62 per cent, or an average of 26 per cent county wide. Concurrent with this information Tulare County Fire Department, operated under agreement with the Division, received a Rural Class 1 fire department rating. We believe this is the first such Division operated county to receive such a rating, on a county-wide basis, without benefit of special districts or special assessments. We have a number of specialized areas containing water systems and fire hydrant improvements that, of course, enjoy special class rates, but the newly announced rate covers all unspecified areas of the county west of the National Forest boundary.

At the request of the Board of Supervisors, Ranger Mann and a representative group from the Tulare-Kings Insurers Association worked out the fire insurance reductions in terms of dollars saved to the property owners. It was found that because of improvements in fire protection that from 1948 to 1955 fire insurance rates dropped six separate times for a total reduction of 57.7 per cent. This percentage of reduction has brought an approximate savings of \$800,000 per year as of 1955 to holders of fire insurance policies. The reduction of 26 per cent as recently announced alone brought an annual savings of \$200,000 per year to policy holders.

Requirements of the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific have been almost completely met in the county. The annual county budget for fire protection will be something in excess of \$400,000 for this coming year. On the basis of insurance savings alone, the operations of the fire department are completely solvent, in fact returns money to the pockets of most taxpayers.

Needless to say, county officials and taxpayers are well pleased with their accomplishment, and the Division of Forestry stands in an enviable position because of them.

As of the present, on structural protection, we are operating 28 pumpers and six tankers (and related administrative equipment) out of 28 stations, operated by some 55 paid fire control personnel and 326 volunteer firemen. The equipment is quite well outfitted with special fire fighting appliances such as foam applicators, deluge sets, fog nozzles, wet water, ladder complements, all-purpose masks, self-contained breathing units, hose clamps, and other modern necessities required in structural and special operations. An Associate Ranger

and four Assistant Rangers operate the unit under Schedule "A". All volunteer and most of the paid men have proficiency certificates in fire training issued by the State Bureau of Fire Training. Four Dispatchers provide for instant action around the clock year-long. All equipment is 3-way radio equipped, and most stations are either 3-way equipped or have receivers. A County Communications Department maintains radio equipment in first class condition. Two structural maintenance men keep improvements up around the fire stations, and a Schedule "A" traveling mechanic watches auto equipment, with partial assistance from a Schedule "B" mechanic. Personnel at all stations retain water survey cards, building inspection files and training records on volunteers, plus accurate hose records on approximately 48,000 feet of 2½" and 1½" cotton jacketed hose. Average number of fires fought by this rural department is 1,250 per year, with assists at 40 city fires and 25 - 30 fires in outside mutual aid counties. Volunteers are called out in the communities by audible alarm systems, either by air horns or sirens. Some engines operate out of city fire stations and by local agreements, a pre-arranged signal on the city alarm system calls out a special force of the city volunteers to accompany the rural equipment. There is neither time nor space here to cover the subject further at this time. I should point out, however, that certain cities in the county are receiving credits toward their insurance class because of the county engines and manpower stationed therein. These credits are given only where the city is short on pumping capacity, manpower, or both.

W. F. Mann
State Forest Ranger

On June 10 another Western Pine Tree Farm was dedicated by the Tulare County Chamber of Commerce on property of the Ivory Pine Company of Dinuba here in District IV.

After an excellent box lunch at the Tree Farm, which is situated on the Fresno-Tulare County Line, Mr. E. P. Ivory, President of the Ivory Pine Company, was given the certificate of membership in the Tree Farm Program by A. D. Hildman, Chairman of the Western Pine Association's Conservation Committee. Other speakers were P. A. Thompson, Western Lumber Manufacturers Association; C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester; and Eldon Ball, Supervisor of the Sequoia National Forest. Woodbridge Metcalf led the group in singing 'Alloette' to close the dedication program.

The speakers recognized the excellent forestry practices of the Ivory Pine Company in their woods operations, and the superior utilization of the log at the mill where very little material is now going into the burner. The normal mill waste is being chipped and the chips being sent to a paper mill, the sawdust being graded and sold for plastics and floor sweeping compounds, and even the fir bark being composted and used as a soil conditioner.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

All fire control activities are now in high gear, with all stations opened and crews engaged in training and hazard reduction work.

Various members of this county appeared at the U.S.F.S. training school at Uhl Guard Station and N.P.S. School at Ash Mountain.

Dispatcher Schonher finally gave in to the little fellow with the sash around his waist (Dan Cupid) and was married May 28th at Las Vegas. Too bad Orval, no more trips to Mexico, Hawaii, and other foreign ports.

Robert Matheson
Assistant Ranger

KINGS COUNTY

The month of May has been a very busy time in Kings County, county budgets and planning always takes time and a lot of extra hours.

Harvest inspections are in full swing at present with an additional man, Forest Trainee Bill Emery giving us a hand. We always hope to make a 100% inspection, it helps keep grain fires down.

Preparations which are under way for the dedication of the new Kettleman City Fire Station, are being handled by the Chamber of Commerce. The dedication of the new Kings County Museum at Burris Park will be held May 22, 1955, at 1:00 P.M.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

FROM DISTRICT IV HEADQUARTERS

Deputy State Forester C. E. Metcalf received recognition from the University of California and the San Joaquin Valley 4-H Clubs in the presentation of a plaque and honorary membership in the 4-H movement in appreciation for his twenty-five years of unselfish work in behalf of the Whitaker's Forest Camp in Fresno County. Cecil is the second individual in Fresno County to receive the award.

The award was presented by ^{an} old co-worker, Woodbridge Metcalf, the Extension Forester for the University of California. Metcalf, in accepting the award, recalled ^{that} the camp, a recreational and training area for farm youths throughout the valley, was established in 1927. Since that time he, as ranger and later as Deputy State Forester, has observed evidence in the increased interest in fire prevention and conservation on the part of hundreds of persons who have as youngsters enjoyed the facilities at Whitaker's.

Whitaker's Forest is dear to the California Division of Forestry by reason of the fact that in its grove is included the State Forester's tree, in which are interred the ashes of former State Forester Merritt B. Pratt, who played an important part in the establishment of the Forest.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

DISTRICT V

District V celebrated the forthcoming opening of fire season with the annual District picnic at Bolado Park in San Benito County on Sunday, May 8.

We had a turnout of 200 people and one airedale dog, Jerry Dowdakin. Everyone seemed to have a good time, thanks to the sun. The planning committee really had a rough Saturday -- clear one minute and rain the next. Should that 116 lbs. of beef be cooked or frozen? At 8:00 p.m. the night before the gamble was made, rain and all, but, like I said "thanks to the sun."

The basic menu was roast beef and elbow bending, both furnished through reservation. The Counties pot-lucked salads, desserts, coffee and other necessities.

Everyone went home happy from a grand day of gabbing, baseball, swimming, and "Boy, are those elbows tired", with nothing more than full stomachs and a few mild cases of sunburn.

Here's hoping other Districts have as much luck with their annual get-togethers, and look out for the kids. Man! Can they stow away the soda pop!

Fred Terwilliger
Forestry Trainee

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

It can only happen in Santa Clara County.

It was said 25 years ago this date that "Loma Prieta, meandering mountain of the Santa Cruz range, was headed for Morgan Hill. The highest peak in the Santa Cruz mountains, Loma Prieta, was traveling away from Los Gatos at a rate of six feet every twenty-five years. It should reach Morgan Hill in 25,000 years according to Dr. Baily Willis, noted Stanford University geologist."

However, in 1954 it was also noted that this same mountain peak is sinking six feet every twenty-five years.

Now according to this writer's calculations, the peak's elevation is 3,806 feet, and the air line distance to Morgan hill is 60,720 feet. So I figure this peak will sink and disappear before it reaches Morgan Hill. He won't have to worry about having to relocate our brand new headquarters station, but the question remains, where will we locate the Loma Prieta Lookout 25,000 years from now.

Sam Garza
Forest Fire Dispatcher

DISTRICT VI

Weather has been building towards an April 16th fire season all through February and March. Early April set new records. So, we "did it." However, no sooner declared than the clouds and cool weather came. Twice the clouds "dewed it" in late April !

The new District VI Headquarters has grown into rather impressive outer shells--including roofs. Interior work won't be finished though until about August 1st. We anxiously look forward to that date, not only because of many years of waiting, but because the aircraft industry is pressing us to vacate our rented quarters. Too, our District Warehouse will then be in the same county, i.e.,

Riverside instead of San Bernardino, as is the rest of the District functions.

Gone for awhile from Headquarters' walls is Fire Prevention Officer Norm Harris. The U. S. Army called him to Georgia for several weeks. Fortunately for Norm and his wife, her former home was down that-away so she got the trip too and he got added weeks for vacation.

Likewise gone in early May is Trainee Jim Whitlock. It's back to the turns in Lake County for a vacation from our straight concrete freeways around Riverside City, his base of operations.

We believe a good remark was made by one of our private industry speakers at the District Fire School. He said that if you are a supervisor, ask yourself, "Do you believe the employees under you feel they are lucky to have you as their supervisor"? Try that one on for size!

San Bernardino County counted noses at the Forestry exhibit of the National Orange Show (County Fair most places) this year. This revealed that during the two weekends, an average of more than two hundred persons every ten minutes actually looked at the exhibit. We hope they were impressionable and that our acreage in that County benefits accordingly.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

CDC CAMP MINNEWAWA

Things have been pretty busy down Minnewawa way, and we thought we'd pass along these news notes

Crews have been constantly at work of late hacking away at the International Firebreak between Mexico and the U. S. We may be getting a few dirty looks in the future from the Immigration boys, as we've cut a three hundred foot highway which should be just dandy for the wandering wetbacks in these parts... but one thing is certain -- Hidden Valley isn't hidden any more.

Our Furniture Refinishing "Factory" is going full blast, and, from the looks of some of the beat-up, bedraggled and battered bits of furniture we've received, it seems that the lads from District VI have made some profitable trips to the City Dump -- but we're proud to report that the returned furniture looks "show room" new. And the word must be out about the quality, 'cause the stuff keeps pouring in.'

Baseball has arrived officially, with Minnewawa winning its first game of the season. The team plays in the San Diego County League, a division of the National Baseball Congress. An interesting sidelight concerns two of the teams in the league . . . By necessity, all the games played by our team are "home" games -- but, strangely enough, the same is true of a Marine Service team . . . with the net result being that when we are due to play there, they automatically win -- and the same is true when they are scheduled to play here. That's one way of winning at least one game a season!

The Stork's been busy, too, with FFF Jack Weatherbie passing out cigars to celebrate the arrival of a young lady in his household, and Tom Holland bragging about all 7 lbs. 1 oz. of Master Harold Holland (Tom himself weighs in at a daity 260!) who put in his initital appearance April 21st.

And that's the latest from District VI's southern outpost, down Mexico way

Adios, amigo
Don Diego (also known as.....
Stanley L. Moe
Forestry Work Project Supervisor..)

MORE FROM DOUG GLENN

June has arrived in District VI and with it several May vacationers have returned. As reported last month, Trainee Jim "Buz" Whitlock spent two weeks in "Old Lake County." Seems as though the air up thar is not as healthy as that floating around down here, even if ours is polluted a little with smoke from the factories, incinerators, and exhausts of 4,000,000 Angelenos. Buz contracted polio just before leaving Lake County a year ago to come to this District, but his health and that of his family has been perfect here until he went back to Lake for a rest. Second day after arrival, his two children climbed into bed with the mumps. Dad Whitlock spent his vacation beside them, never pulled his fishing rod out of the case!

Another Trainee hits the headlines too, slightly differently but with a fishing rod in his case. Tom Connors, a native of Southern California and District VI Forestry, finished his Trainee period and eager to learn more Forestry tricks, requested a move to the "far north." District I obliged and Tom took off in early June. He was elated with the prospects of some heavy fishing and hunting so the District Office force presented him with a fly fishing rod and case with all the trimmings in it and said, "Happy hunting and fishing, as you wish Tom." We look for, when winter provides plenty of river ice, a frozen U. S. mail package of proof of the rod.

Assistant Ranger Lefty Green deserves a word of praise for all the muscle and brain work he did on the recent Southern California Forester and Fire Warden Association Convention. The site for the gathering of three hundred members of the dozen watershed fire organizations was in his Assistant Ranger District, south of Julian in the 6,000-foot Laguna Recreation Area. Naturally, he fell heir to more work than you can do in ten weeks of preparatory planning but he did it. Among other jobs, he helped place the stage from which our own District Headquarters' Gene Bertsch inherited the gavel as current President from Nolan O'Neal, Fire Control Officer for the Los Padres Forest. At this point, we want to congratulate Gene as he is President of a distinctive organization composed of cooperating agencies such as County Fire Districts, independent County Forestry Departments, California Division of Forestry, and U.S.F.S. The group has existed for a quarter-century and its one meeting yearly is, to a large extent, responsible for the heavy fire cooperation practiced here. We know that Gene will knit this group more closely together than ever.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

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2. The second part of the report deals with the economic situation of the country.

3. The third part of the report deals with the social situation of the country.

4. The fourth part of the report deals with the political situation of the country.

5. The fifth part of the report deals with the cultural situation of the country.

6. The sixth part of the report deals with the environmental situation of the country.

7. The seventh part of the report deals with the international situation of the country.

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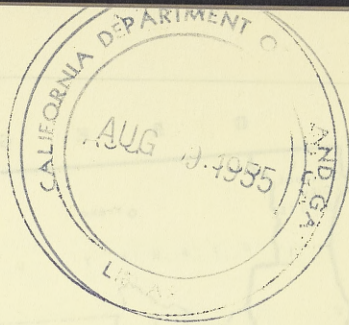
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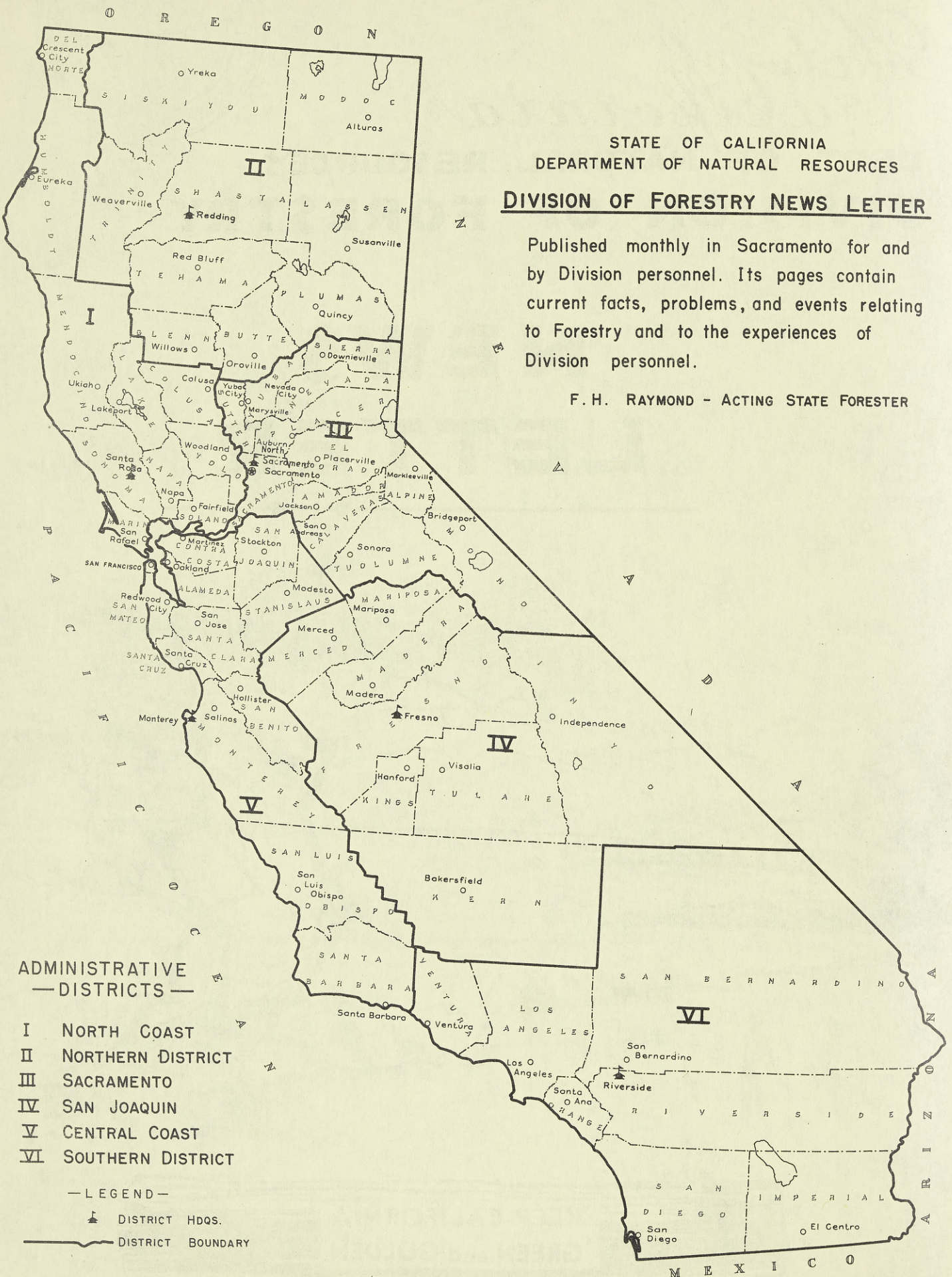
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KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN

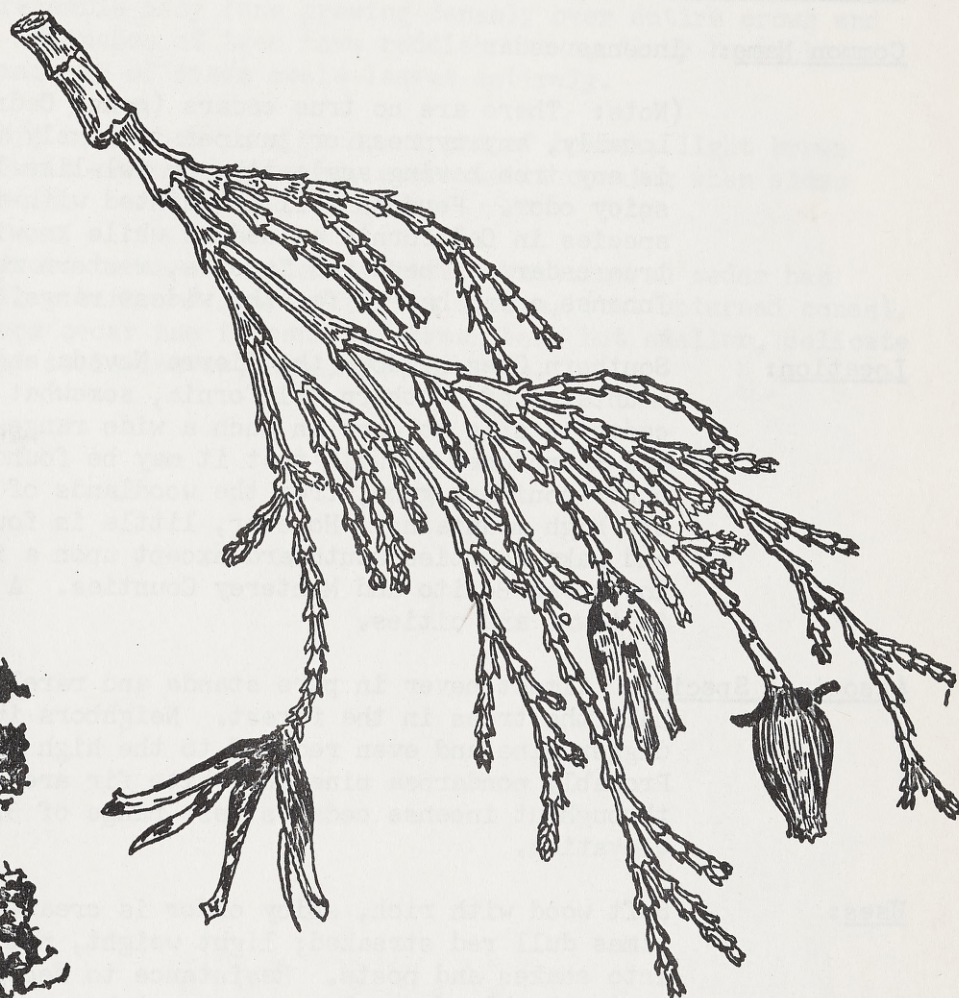
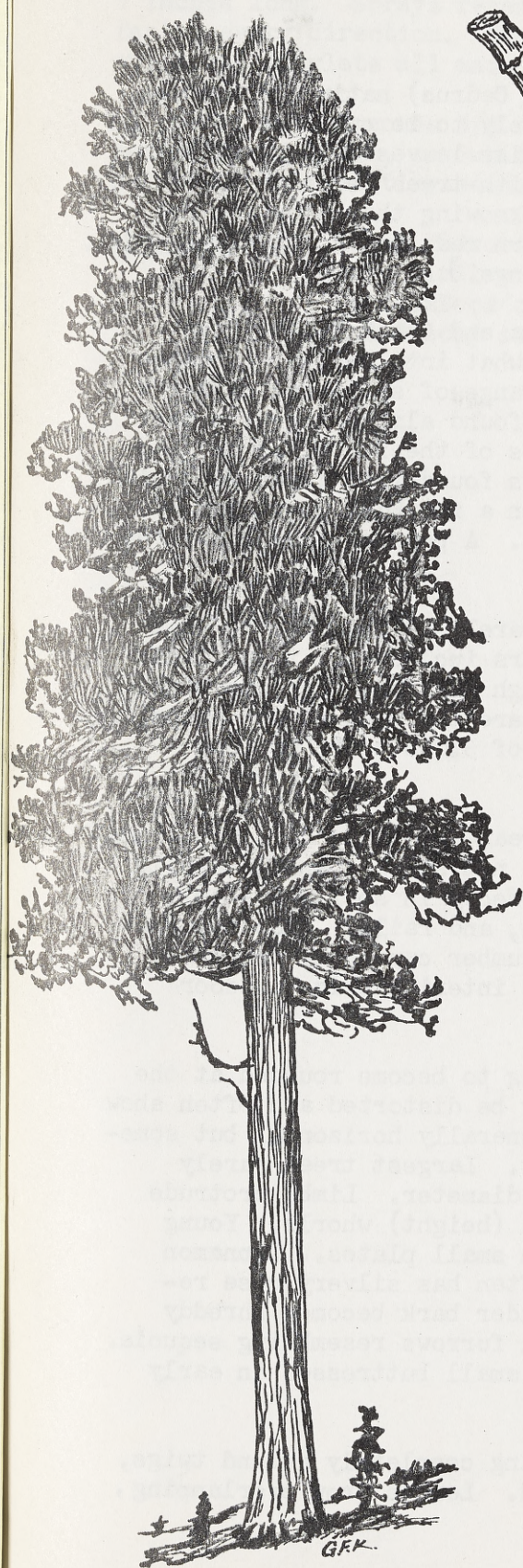


STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - ACTING STATE FORESTER



INCENSE CEDAR

INCENSE CEDAR

Scientific Name: Libocedrus decurrens (lie-bo-seed-rus-dee-cur-rens)

Common Name: Incense cedar

(Note: There are no true cedars (genus Cedrus) native to America. Locally, any cypress or juniper is likely to be called a cedar, as is any tree having scale-like or awl-like leaves or wood with a spicy odor. Persons well acquainted with trees refer to three species in California as cedars while knowing that they are not true cedars. These are incense, western red, and Port Orford cedar. Incense cedar has by far the widest range.)

Location: Southern Oregon, down the Sierra Nevada and Coast Range, high mountains of Southern California, somewhat into Mexico. Incense cedar is able to grow in such a wide range of soils and climates and reproduces so well that it may be found almost anywhere that other conifers grow, from the woodlands of the foothills up into the high mountains. However, little is found from lower Mendocino and Lake Counties southward except upon a few high mountains of lower San Benito and Monterey Counties. A popular landscape tree in towns and cities.

Associate Species: Almost never in pure stands and rarely making up more than half the trees in the forest. Neighbors include all trees from digger pine and even redwood to the high altitude firs and pines. Probably ponderosa pine and white fir are the most common associates throughout incense cedar's best range of 3,000 to 6,000 feet elevation.

Uses: Soft wood with rich, spicy odor is cream-yellow to dull tan, sometimes dull red streaked; light weight, not strong, splits easily into shakes and posts. Resistance to decay in soil makes this wood valuable for poles, posts, stakes, and rails. Also cut for shingles and pencil stock. Holes in lumber caused by heart rot gives a special rustic effect for some interior trim, outdoor furniture and fences.

Identification: Younger trees with cone shape tending to become rounded at the top in middle age; in old age tops may be distorted and often show dead spikes and branches. Branches generally horizontal but sometimes lower branches may droop heavily. Largest trees rarely more than 100 feet high and 5 feet in diameter. Limbs protrude without much regard to definite annual (height) whorls. Young bark thin, soft, tends to flake off in small plates. Cinnamon red-brown, except that surface most often has silvery case resembling color of milky chocolate. Older bark becomes shreddy and more red-brown, with deep vertical furrows resembling sequoia. Base of tree begins to swell and form small buttresses in early middle age.

Small leaves resemble tiny fish scales growing completely around twigs, leaves 1/8 to 1/2 inch long, slightly prickled at end. Leaves grow overlapping,

four around twig stem; pale yellow green color. Twigs grow in flat sprays 3 to 7 inches long. Sprays resemble lacy fans growing densely over entire crown and facing every direction. Branches of tree have reddish brown, flaky bark, but twigs and twiglets all made up of green scale-leaves entirely.

Mature cones $3/4$ to 1 inch long droop at end of branch; light brown becoming red-brown, somewhat resembling narrow acorn until opening when sides split and deliver tiny seed.

Confused With: Coast redwood because of similar bark. Western red cedar has very similar bark and leaves in flat sprays, (but upturned cones). Port Oxford cedar has fibrous red-brown bark but smaller, delicate and droopy scale-leaves, small round cones.

SUGAR PINE

from around the base of the tree. The bark is smooth and light brown. The leaves are dark green and glossy. The flowers are small and white. The fruit is a small, round, green berry.

The tree is a small, bushy shrub. It is found in the mountains of the Pacific Northwest. It is a member of the Rosaceae family. The tree is named after the person who discovered it.

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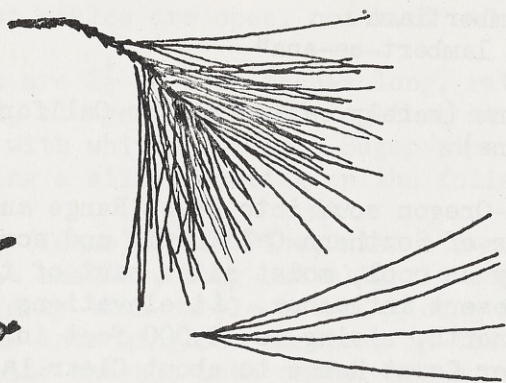
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SUGAR PINE

SUGAR PINE

Scientific Name: Pinus lambertiana
"Pine-us lambert-ee-ana"

Common Name: Sugar pine (rarely called big or California or purple-coned sugar pine)

Location: From mid-Oregon south into Coast Range and Sierra, on high mountains of Southern California and somewhat into Mexico. Generally on cool, moist sites east of the ocean fog and west of the desert influence. At elevations generally above 1000 feet in north, rising to 10,000 feet in extreme southern range. Down Inner Coast Range to about Clear Lake, then on peaks south of mid-Monterey County. Sometimes found in unexpected spots such as intermingled with redwood about Sonoma-Mendocino boundary.

Associate Species: Practically always found mixed with other trees, such as ponderosa pine, incense cedar, true firs, Douglas fir, black oak. Young growth and shrubs may form dense thicket under sugar pine but old groves are generally open and park-like.

Uses: A very valuable lumber tree once used freely for split material. The white (or creamy yellow) almost grainless wood is soft and easily worked into cabinets and patterns. Not especially strong or hard but durable when exposed to weather; not inclined to warp or check. Lengthwise resin ducts, appearing like thin brown pencil lines, identify this species. Each year about one-fourth billion board feet are harvested. Considerable effort has been put forth by government and the lumber industry to forestall the ravages of blister rust and to try to learn why this valuable species reproduces itself so poorly.

Identification: Sugar pine is often called the tallest and most beautiful pine. Young trees are symmetrical, narrow cone-shaped, with branches extending from trunk at definite (annual growth) heights. Bark rough, crinkly and flaky, with irregular vertical grooves. Grooves and ridges develop into plates as tree matures. Gray-brown bark becomes dark reddish brown with decided purple cast. Bark is two or three inches thick. Older trunks are practically always very straight and clear of limbs 50 to 80 feet above ground. Older branches become twisted and give unbalanced appearance to crown. With increasing age tops of trees take on flat appearance with highest branches extending straight out, bearing drooping cones at the tips. White or amber lumps of "sugar" (dried pitch) exuding from wounds on trunk give the tree its name, but this is not a prominent feature to look for.

The long cones and the needles tied together five in a bundle at the base are the key characters to look for in sugar pine. Young cones grow upright, light green or bright purple, becoming purple-brown; mature cones hang straight down opening their scales to drop corn-size, winged brown seeds. Mature cones are symmetrical, from one to almost two feet long,

2½ to four inches thick; scale tips are chestnut brown without spikes, the inner scale is colored purple-brown. Old cones are firm but scales are open, not hard and heavy.

Needles are 2½ to four inches long, rather stiff and slightly twisted, always five bound together at the base, deep blue-green color, with whitish tinge. Sugar pine often gives appearance of having a silver dusting on the foliage.

Confused With: Western (Idaho) White Pine, also a 5-needle pine with cones somewhat smaller, long but slightly curved, bark generally more silver gray than purple brown. Young trees very similar. The two grow intermingled sometimes in the high Sierra, but western white pine extends into colder areas.

JUNE ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Fire season in Districts I through V was declared on June 1 when all crews were activated and training and station cleanup was initiated.

Fire season was declared in District VI on April 16th.

The first fire of consequence of the year started from logging in the North Coast District and burned 500 acres in heavy slash before controlled.

This was followed by three more fires in this District, burning an additional 100 acres.

On June 10th a lightning storm coming in from the northwest set 80 lightning fires in Districts I, II, and III. All, however, were quickly found by combination of our patrol and with air to ground radio communications. All 80 fires were immediately controlled, the largest being 15 acres in eastern Lake County.

With the exception of excessive winds for this time of year, the season to date is near normal. Fire occurrence, however, is up 25% over 1954 and 10% above the fire year average.

STATISTICS: The statistical section was engaged throughout June in preparing data for the range improvement report submitted to the Board of Forestry. This meeting was held at Davis June 16 to 18, inclusive. The statistical section also prepared data on the power tool brush cutting experiment held in Humboldt County during the latter part of the month.

FOREST PROTECTION STUDIES: On June 7, 8, 9, and 10, inclusive, a television camera and viewing screen was tried out at Mt. Danaher Lookout in the interest of developing a mechanical forest fire detection device. This experiment was viewed by many people in the Division of Forestry and in agencies working on associated problems. Although the results did not prove as effective as might have been desired, a great deal of promise in this type of detection was observed. It was felt that further development in equipment used and techniques of operation would ultimately produce a mechanical device that would be valuable as a supplement to our man equipped detection system.

During the latter part of the month, seven days were spent in Fresno County making arrangements to start project SKYFIRE in the Central Sierra Region.

This project is to study lightning cloud formations and high level weather conditions in general, and is being participated in by the U. S. Forest Service, U. S. Weather Bureau, and the California Range and Experiment Station.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: Twenty-one (21) forest fire trucks were delivered by the build-up vendors and are now being sent to the field.

A study was made to compare the field performance of a large number of light weight brush cutting power saws. During the last several years a number of manufacturers have entered this field, each claiming to have the best product on the market. To determine which tool would best do our job for guidance in budgeting and purchasing, as well as getting a direct comparison against manpower using conventional cutting tools, some 15,000' of 5' to 10' fire line was cut in brush types ranging from light to extreme on all slopes.

The tests were conducted in Humboldt County with each district participating in furnishing overhead to operate the saws and collect the data. As part of their spring fire line training, District I furnished hand crews from High Rock C.D.C. Camp to construct the hand line and to remove the brush from the power saw lines.

The data is now being studied by the statistical section of the Fire Control Office and will be compiled into a complete report for the field.

FOREST AND RANGE MANAGEMENT

STATE FORESTS: U. S. Plywood Corporation of Redding was awarded the 1955 timber sale on the Latour State Forest when sealed bids were opened in Redding on June 14th. The sale involves the cutting and removal of some 5,532,000 board feet of timber from 250 acres of forest land before December 1, 1955. The timber was sold at the following rates per thousand board feet: sugar pine, ponderosa and Jeffrey pine \$40.00; white fir and red fir \$12.00; and Douglas fir and incense cedar \$3.00. This sale should bring a return to the state of approximately \$128,070.

FOREST PRACTICE: An alternate plan for the "Barnes & Edwards Forest Products" of Loomis in Placer County and an alternate plan for the "120 Acre Tree Farm" in Sierra County were approved by the State Board of Forestry in Sacramento on June 17, 1955. These plans permit a deviation from the local Forest Practice Rules with respect to cutting small trees to improve forest growth.

BLISTER RUST: The State Board of Forestry at its regular meeting on June 17, 1955, in Sacramento, approved a policy for control of white pine blister rust on state and private lands for fiscal year 1955-56.

The essential features of this policy are:

1. State shall assume full cost of control on state-owned lands including surveys, leadership, technical supervisor, method development, and disease investigation.

2. State ratio of expenditures to other cooperators for the portion of privately owned land shall not exceed 50% of total costs including surveys, leadership, technical supervision, method development, and disease investigation.

3. The manner of control shall follow the standards approved by the State Forester based on findings and recommendations of qualified control and research agencies dealing with this problem and California Forest Practice Committees of the Forest Districts concerned.

4. It is recommended that the private landowner in recognition of the benefits resulting from control of blister rust be encouraged to contribute not less than 25% of the actual field control costs on his land.

ENGINEERING

Site grading has been completed for the construction of Bridgeville Fire Control Station, in Humboldt County, and the construction of the buildings will commence at an early date.

CLINT DAVIS, NOW FOREST INFORMATION CHIEF

Clint Davis, the Smokey Bear man, was hailed this week as Chief of the U. S. Forest Service's Division of Information and Education. He succeeded Dana Parkinson, who retired. As director of the Smokey Bear Campaign, Clint has worked closely for nine years with State Foresters, forest industries, and other business leaders throughout the country, to prevent fires in the woods. Before that, he was information director of the Southern Region of the Forest Service, made up of 11 states south of Virginia, and helped develop an extensive tree planting program in cooperation with the states and hundreds of private landowners. As public relations director of the Georgia Game and Fish Department for three years, Clint worked with the U. S. Forest Service to develop the first Federal-State cooperative wildlife management area in the country. He also served as outdoor editor for the Atlanta Constitution.

FORESTRY TRAINEE WINS CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

Theodore J. Paul, Forestry Trainee, Monterey, was awarded a Certificate of Commendation by the Merit Award Board at its last regular meeting for suggesting that the back half of the brush guard on the later model Marmon-Herrington brooms be painted black instead of aluminum to eliminate the reflection of head lights.

TWO FORESTRY EMPLOYEES WIN MERIT AWARDS

At its last regular meeting, the State Merit Award Board recommended payment of \$77 in cash to George E. Surryhne, Jr., Accounting Technician Grade III, Sacramento, for his suggestion which proposed eliminating the time and date stamping of subpurchase orders, invoices, purchase orders, and utility bills. Mr. Surryhne previously received a Certificate of Commendation for this idea. A cash award was possible when savings resulting therefrom were tabulated.

The Board also recommended a \$25 award to be paid to Harold W. Wolfram, Assistant Forest Technician, Santa Rosa, for suggesting a filter screen insert for the Forester Pneumatic Flamethrower to prevent clogging of the nozzle tip. The manufacturer will install screens of this type on future production models and equip existing units with them.

STATE PARK RANGER WINS CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

At the last regular meeting of the State Merit Award Board, a Certificate of Commendation was awarded Clyde W. Ray, Ranger I, McArthur-Burney Falls, Memorial State Park, for developing a tool for driving steel posts. This equipment is considered as an effective means for driving steel fence posts on small runs and repair jobs and improves the safety of the operation.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

PERSONNEL CHANGES

John Callaghan, Deputy State Forester in charge of District II, has been appointed Chief Deputy State Forester in Sacramento.

George Grogan has been appointed Deputy State Forester in charge of District II; he was formerly a Senior Forest Technician in District I.

Gervice Nash was appointed State Forest Ranger I in the Sacramento office to take over the new position as coordinator between CDF and USFS. He was formerly the Associate Ranger in District V headquarters office.

Loren E. Hill, former Assistant Ranger in Nevada County, has been appointed Associate Ranger in Tuolumne to replace Robert Harris.

Robert Harris has been transferred to the position of Forestry Work Project Supervisor in charge of the new Vallecito CDC camp in District III.

Clifford Jamison, former Assistant Ranger and recently working as a Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in District III, has been reinstated as Assistant Ranger in Nevada County, replacing Loren Hill.

Robert Malain, Assistant Forest Technician, transferred from the Davis Nursery to take charge of the branch nursery at Parlin Fork, District I.

Donald Goddard, Assistant Technician at the Jackson State Forest, District I, has transferred to the Davis Nursery to replace Bob Malain.

Richard J. Smart, former Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in District I, has been appointed Assistant Ranger in Orange County to replace Richard Custer, who resigned.

Grant E. McClellan, former Trainee and Foreman in District I, has been appointed Assistant Ranger in San Diego County to replace Bob Green who went to Siskiyou County as an Associate Ranger.

Harold P. Brock has been appointed Land Surveyor to take charge of our survey crew working out of Sacramento - replacing Howard Kingston, who resigned.

George Ryder, Forest Fire Fighter Foreman, has been assigned as Trainee in District III.

Dorothy Lewis
Personnel Supervisor

DISTRICT II

UNUSUAL MANZANITA

A manzanita bush measuring 22" in diameter at one foot above the ground was found on Crystal Creek in Western Shasta County.

This bush was approximately 16' high and 20' crown diameter, with limbs up to 12" in diameter.

It was "logged" by Spade & Hays, clearing their present operations, on property owned by W. Bannigan of 1728 Magnolia Street, Redding.

It is estimated to be 400 years old by Foresters from the California Division of Forestry, Redding.

Larry E. Richey
Senior Forest Technician

MAGALIA HONOR CAMP

Softball season at Magalia Honor Camp opened officially last Sunday with a free hitting game which saw the newly christened "Smokey Bears" pound out a 17-3 win over the Chico Moulding Company nine.

The manager of the Magalia squad has put together a combination that is bound to spell trouble to many of the nearby teams which visit camp during the summer.

Sparking the fast working team is pitcher Blackman, who not only pitches with plenty of steam but puts plenty of "stuff" on the ball.

Chico Moulding bunched six hits together to push in their only scores. The Smokey Bears, hitting freely in every inning, gathered in a total of 17 hits and 8 earned runs while scoring the tallies.

Formerly known as the Magalia Eight Balls, the team decided that in this age of modernization and change, it was time they also did some rejuvenating.

In a voice vote, the team decided it was time to get out from "behind the eight ball."

The selection of "Smokey Bears" was decided upon as being in keeping with the camp's connection with the California Division of Forestry.

Last Tuesday the Magalia Smokey Bears tangled with Associate Ranger Harry McKeen's team of Fire Fighters.

It was a natural slaughter with plenty of fun. Honor Camp reporters decline to issue the score to save their Division of Forestry associate embarrassment!

DISTRICT II ANNUAL FIELD TRIP

You know it's awfully nice when busy bosses will take time out from their work to give their office staff of girls an outing and answer the innumerable questions that are hurled at them along the way.

On June 24, Herb Kaufner, Assistant Deputy State Forester and Lee Lange, Associate of Shasta County, took the District II Headquarter girls on their annual field trip which included many points of interest. We met at the District Office as usual and neither Lee nor Herb showed any outward signs of consternation at being in sole charge of six girls. We had breakfast at Whitmore Camp (Our old CYA Camp) and what a feed! Ham, eggs, potatoes, buttered toast, and all the coffee we could drink. While settling our breakfast a little we looked at the old building that formerly housed the mill. This building is to be moved to Shasta Headquarters at a later date. In our snooping we saw what we think was possibly the oldest "Easy" washing machine in existence and working order. It was a real relic.

The Azaleas were in bloom along the road as we took off for Latour and on this road are some of the prettiest water falls. Our drivers were not adverse to stopping at beauty points so it was somewhere near 10 when we reached Latour and who should be waiting with coffee, pie (hot apple) and ice cream but Joe MontTuey the cook. After having pie and coffee at Latour Spike camp we sent on to see "Latour Lodge" which is a quarter of a mile further up the road. "Latour Lodge" is where Paul Cox spends his summer months cruising timber, arranging for timber sales etc. This building is new and we are justly proud of it. We had a short lesson on wild flowers while there - saw the famous "snow flower" which is lovely. Passed quite a few deer on the road, mostly does. Went out along the ridge route to look back at Redding, this is quite a sight, we could almost see Sacramento. Instead of taking the well-traveled road, there was logging on it, we took a sort of back road from Latour to Burney. At one time it was nip and tuck as to whether we would cut a tree out of our road or sort of make a new road around it. We settled on the new road around it. There are the most gorgeous camping sites along this route and something to see are the beaver dams in the head of Cow Creek. The Fish & Game trapped a pair of beavers and settled them there as wherever beaver are there is plenty of water as they back it up with dams to make sure.

At Burney Station we were met by Ralph L. Smith, Assistant Ranger of Shasta County, who is in charge of that station. We looked his station over, decided that he had a green thumb, admired their lovely rustic rail fence which Foreman Lee Erbele taught us how we could build one just like it, then went to Jack Rabbit Flat for a picnic lunch. No wonder the fellows like to be stationed at Burney. Never has there been such a lunch. Fried chicken, potato salad, stuffed celery, coffee and three apple pies. Took us quite a while to move on from there as we soon were as stuffed as the celery. Smitty had to leave us and hurry back to his station as he had received a call on a fire so the rest of us journeyed on to see Burney Falls. Some of the group had never seen this beautiful sight before so we all walked down to the falls. There was a moving picture camera in the group so some good pictures were taken but of course the bunch won't forget that earlier in the day the movies were taken with the cap over the lens and they were sort of blank.

From Burney Falls we headed back towards home with a stop over to see barracks and messhall addition going on at our Hillcrest station. This will be

another handsome station when completed. There was no more stopping and we had seen the last of the recent improvements so we headed home tired, dirty, and voting this "the best trip ever" as usual! Our sincere thanks to everyone involved in the planning of the trip and especially to Herb and Lee who went out of their way to see that we had a day to be remembered.

TRAINING IN DISTRICT II

Rangers and Assistant Rangers in District II are presently conducting a short course in forest fire fighting technique for the construction crews of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company.

P. T. & T. Company officials requested fire training for their crews in order that they might be of better service to the public and the company.

Associate Ranger, Harry McKeen, Butte County, is coordinator for both agencies during the training period.

The subjects being taught are safety, use of tools, terminology, chemistry of fire and fire prevention.

Raymond R. Higgins
Fire Prevention Officer

IRON MINE CDC CAMP

CDC crews from the Iron Mine CDC Camp have been called upon to participate in three rescue operations to date this year.

The latest two operations involved the removal over difficult terrain of injured sportsmen in the rugged canyons of Placer County.

On Saturday, July 2nd in answer to a request from the Placer County Sheriff's Office, a crew of 8 men with Project Foreman Coomber went to the Middle Fork of the American River below the Ralston Ridge Airstrip. They descended into the canyon at 4 P.M. and brought out an injured physician who had fallen while fishing and suffered a brain concussion. The crew arrived at the top of the canyon at 2 A.M. on Sunday, July 3rd.

On July 4 a crew of 12 men from Iron Mine led by Project Supervisor Merle and Project Foreman Coomber assisted in the rescue of a woman who suffered a broken leg while descending into the canyon of the North Fork of the American River behind Gold Run. This rescue took four hours.

In the three rescues in which they have participated in this year the Iron Mine inmates have all done outstanding work and have all received the praise of the Sheriff's office, as well as considerable local publicity.

Fred Dunow, Deputy State Forester

NEVADA COUNTY

Several changes in personnel in Nevada County have taken place this spring which leaves only one "Old timer" on the Nevada County Staff. (J. W. Weselsky, Assistant Ranger). Associate Ranger, A. J. Hayes has been transferred

to Placer County, our loss their gain. Marion Steele is our new Associate Ranger and we wish him success in his new appointment.

Assistant Loren E. Hill was promoted to Associate Ranger in Tuolumne County, we hate to lose him but know he will be a success in his new position. (Good luck Loren). Our new Assistant Ranger is Clifford Jamison ("Big Jim") who came to us from Eldorado County. We do not like to take a good man from Eldorado but it is again their loss and our gain.

Foreman (Professor) George R. Newcomb gave a demonstration and lecture on the use of the new District III backfire trailer before members of the Board of Forestry at the University at Davis. George is becoming quite proficient at this sort of presentation.

L. Monian Dispatcher

This year our annual Fire Camp set up was broadened in scope. Camp was set up for over night and the next day. A mock fire problem was held with a critique at the conclusion of the problem. Members of the Tahoe Forest were in attendance, as well as members of District III office. A good breakfast and lunch was served and everyone got a lot of good ideas from the various instructors and programs.

Oh woe is us, everyone is at the wailing wall in Nevada County. After three years we lost our trophy and title (Hose Cart Champions of Northern California) to the Grass Valley Fire Department. But, never fear, we will be back next year for another try and another win.

D. E. Knowlton
State Forest Ranger

RESIGNATION IN DISTRICT IV

District IV announces the resignation of Fire Prevention Officer, Dick Rafferty, effective early in August.

Dick, who has served with us since the early days of the District, will join his partner as an active member of the "Keeling-Rafferty Motor Company" here in Fresno. However, he maintains his first "civilian" act will be his first summer vacation in the 23 years he has served with both the State and Federal Services.

The Raffertys will tour the East Coast returning to Fresno in September. We wish Dick and family the best of luck in their new field.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

KINGS COUNTY

Vacation time is here again for county fire truck drivers, so again we shuffle the deck trying to keep all of the stations manned while some lucky guy catches a fish.

Ranger Lindley always said it is safer and you are surer of catching a fish if you keep one foot real close to the ground. He rode horse back into

the hills the past week end and returned with his fish astride a faithful cow pony while another Ranger had one horse quit working at about a 10,000 foot elevation, no fish, no trip, thank God there was a level place to land and all is well.

Kings County could not stand by and see another county receive a very substantial reduction in insurance rates without doing something about it. We have just received a letter saying we can look forward to a reduction from class 9B rate to class 8 rate county wide as soon as proper formality and notification can be handled. We feel very happy about this as we are the baby county as far as the Division is concerned with only about 8 years work to accomplish such a rating starting from scratch. Thanks to everyone who helped accomplish the good work.

Assistant Ranger Couste and family are on vacation and have started a new system of vacationing. They first made all of the arrangements such as loading trailer and making all of the other preparations, then they went north for a week of fishing, returning to headquarters leaving their trailer loaded and parked it. They are visiting in the south for one week and upon their return will pick up the trailer already loaded and go to the coast for a week. A new diversified vacation.

The weather has been on the cool side most of the summer so far. Grain harvest is past and we now live under a blanket of smoke caused from burning stubble.

Randle, Cody, Joe and James
Headquarters personnel

Dedication ceremonies were held at the new fire station at Kettleman City the evening of June 17th. A sizable group from the community, as well as several notables including the County Board of Supervisors were in attendance for the affair which was sponsored by the local Chamber of Commerce. The Forestry department was praised for the fine building erected by the department at a very nominal cost.

J. T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

MADERA COUNTY

Michael Griggs, Fire Fighter at Madera headquarters, recently placed third in the National Rifleman's Association 1955 rifle match. Considering there were 3,850 contestants shooting, third place is quite an honor. Congratulations, Mike!

Madera County had four drivers appointed to Foreman this season. Schedule "A" Drivers Carroll Beaver, Tom McCall, Rex Griggs, and Schedule "B" Driver Jack Cullumber all made the big jump.

This month Madera headquarters received a new four-wheel drive Ford cab over fire truck for Schedule "A". This truck has a Darley 500 GPM pump with a Mercury industrial auxiliary engine. We have been advised that this is the only known such combination in existence and all parties concerned are keeping an eye on this unit. This truck was designed for grain fires in the sandy soil we have in Madera County and still be classified as a structural

fire truck.

Assistant Ranger Al Kessler and Driver Delbert Burnett have returned from National Guard Camp where Madera's company walked off with a truck load of awards.

Madera County headquarters was hosts at a chicken dinner for the Madera County Board of Supervisors. Honored guests were Deputy State Forester C. E. Metcalf and Turkish Forester Vedat Suer. The Board of Supervisors have dinner each year at the Madera headquarters and look over our activities. This pays off in that the governing body of the county is made aware of our problems and work at first hand.

Madera County's range improvement program this year has ten burns slated for a total acreage of 10,800 acres. To date there have been two small preburns.

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

SAN BENITO COUNTY

In order that San Benito County Ranger Unit is not completely forgotten we feel we had better 'make some noise' for the News Letter - so H E R E W E A R E ! (Goebel). Hollister Headquarters Office (from hours 0800 to 1700?) houses Ranger John Wade, Associate Ranger Francis Bradford, Assistant Rangers Red Hall and Vern Stoops, Dispatcher 'broken back Charlie' Swartz and our clerk Elsie Schleuse.

The Foremen who see that operations are functioning at Headquarters are Lorain Freitas, Jim DeLappe, Joe Fitzpatrick (when not burning up the District - RI., of course) and, our brand-new Foreman, Doug Sparling.

The fellows who see that the wheels keep turning are our Equipment Operators Russ Langdon and Al McNight, and Drivers Val Robinson and Rufus Martin (when he isn't helping Joe burn up the District, R.I. you know).

Dan Leverette presides as Cook at Headquarters and sees there is always a 'cup of good cheer' ready.

At Antelope Fire Control Station, Foreman Ralph Hain stands guard with the help of Richard Langdon, a 'chip off the old block' - reference, certain F.E.O. above. Their cook, and an old friend of most everyone in the District with fireline memories, is Joe Johns!

Bear Valley Fire Control Station keeps their reports in snappy order under Foreman Joe Schreiber and our returned Driver from G.I. ranks - Bob McDonald. All are well fed there by Cook Sylvester Shelton.

Beaver Dam comes to life in a hurry from its nest in the hills of southern San Benito County under the enthusiastic direction of Foreman George Baker and Driver Ed Fowler. Their cook Bruce Roark does his part in keeping them in condition, having gained good experience in doing just that for Uncle Sam's G.I.s and the Fort Ord fireman.

On top of Call Mountain, in the center of our county, you will find Look-Out Rufus C. Meairs.

We were pleased to again be the host unit for the yearly District Picnic held at Bolado Park on May 8th and would like to publicly compliment, and thank, those responsible for the delicious food that helped make it the success it was. The salads, cakes, and roast were really in the exceptional class. The weather was very nice and, though held on Mothers' Day which could have kept some from coming, the picnic was well attended. We appreciate the fact that in Bolado Park we have an ideal spot for such an affair; however, the personnel is what makes for friendliness and success of any gathering. We enjoyed it thoroughly and believe all did.

Our Forestry Junior Personnel has recently been augmented by the arrival of two firsts - on Christmas Day John Joseph Fitzpatrick became the first exemption for Foreman Joseph Fitzpatrick and on the 14th of March Foreman Lorain Freitas welcomed his first son - Norman Anthony Freitas (who has 2 older sisters).

FLASH! 'Broken back Charlie' Swartz has received a new deluxe spring-back, well-padded clerical chair so we may be able to change his name slightly when next you hear from us!

To give you an idea of what San Benito County natives think of us we quote:

June 7, 1955

"Mr John Wade,
Park Hill Forestry Service
Hollister, California

Dear John:

"The Board of Trustees of the San Benito County High School and Junior College, at its last special meeting on Friday, May 27, at 1:00 in the High School Office, a resolution was entered in the regular Board minutes to commend you and the Forestry Service for your great fire fighting work.

"Your efforts, with the Hollister Fire Department, prevented a conflagration that might have wiped out a good bit of the High School, plus a good bit of the surrounding residential district. San Benito County should be thankful for this outstanding work of fire control and fire prevention.

"Good work, and the school appreciates it.

Sincerely yours,

s/ F. A. Bauman
Superintendent"

Elsie Schleuse, Clerk

DISTRICT V

On the night of June 30 the District V office personnel held a farewell pot-luck supper for Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, Ruth Smith at the home of Lewis Moran. We all wish Ruth & Curt a lot of luck in their new frozen food business.

July 15 was the date of the Bon Voyage party for Associate Ranger, Gervase Nash of the District V office. Gerv has accepted a new Ranger position in the Sacramento office.

The party was held at the Carpenter's Hall in New Monterey with a fine turnout from the whole district. District Office personnel furnished the food and everyone brought their choice of liquid refreshment. Folks had a fine evening of dining, dancing, and gabbing. The party was topped off with the presentation of gifts to both Gerv and his wife Jackie.

Folks in District V are going to miss Gerv, especially those of Santa Clara County where he spent most of his career before joining the District Office force.

We all sincerely wish Gerv and Jackie (and little Mike too) all the luck in the world at Sacramento.

Our loss is Sacramento's gain!

District V office personnel will now be working with Associate Ranger Fred Keast who has transferred in from Santa Cruz County to replace Gerv. Welcome aboard, Fred!

Fred Terwilliger
Forestry Trainee

DISTRICT VI

Goings and comings in District VI during June, as heard by the Old Grape, includes:

Assistant Ranger Bob "Lefty" Green, an ardent fisherman, has given up his spot on little Green Valley Lake near Julian in trade for the greener pastures and streams of Siskiyou County. Lefty got a change in title, as well as in fishing prospects, he now is Associate Ranger. Good luck - it couldn't happen to a finer person. (Editors note -- Assistant Ranger Green did become Associate Ranger Green in Siskiyou County in late June.)

Gone also is Assistant Ranger Dick Custer from Orange County. We are only surmising that the green stuff was more plentiful at Ontario City Fire Department where he is now Assistant Fire Chief. Good luck, Dick.

Newly arrived at District Headquarters is Foreman Fred Cain of Riverside County now undergoing training in this office. Further expectations, Fred tells us, as a Christmas present is a little Junior. Welcome to both.

Already received at District Headquarters is another Junior Fire Fighter, "real cute" Randy Harrison, in the words of his mother, PBX operator, Mrs. Pat Harrison.

While talking about Juniors we might as well tell about when two Juniors got together, both sons of a CDF fire truck driver. The larger Junior demonstrated to the smaller how to control a grass fire. However, there was a slip in his demonstration some place, maybe he hadn't taken a fuel moisture reading, so it

became necessary for mother and a nearby CDF station to apply proper measures. The fire report stated that corrective measures would be applied by the father. Fortunately, his driver-father had been assigned for duty in a county different from that in which he reared his sons.

Still on the subject of new arrivals, our new District Headquarters is expected to emerge August 1. Will be a welcome addition to our family.

Doug Glenn
Dispatcher

CALIFORNIA LOSES FOREST LEADER

William B. Berry, 39, died August 1 of injuries suffered when a fork lift he was operating rolled down an embankment. When the accident occurred Bill was clearing timber from the Silver Fork School ground, 30 miles east of Placerville.

Bill Berry was a partner in a consulting forestry firm known as California Foresteering. He was a leader in the Forestry Profession throughout the California pine region and the Northern California Section of the Society of American Foresters. He was a driving spirit in the Eldorado-Amador Forestry Forum, an S.A.F. Chapter; one of the founders of the Sierra-Cascade Logging Conference and leader of the "Riggers Round Table." He was a past president of the Placerville Lions Club and first vice chairman of the district Boy Scout Council; member of the Elks Lodge, American Legion, 40 and 8, and Society of American Foresters. In 1953 he was an unsuccessful Republican candidate for Congress.

His father, State Senator Swift Berry, was a graduate of the Biltmore Forestry School and his brother Jack, has a timber brokerage business in Sacramento. Bill is survived by his wife, Barbara, and four sons.

There was only one Bill Berry, a real leader, a true friend, and a wonderful father. California and the Forestry Profession has suffered a severe loss.

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We are sorry to hear of the death of Bill Berry. He was a true friend and a wonderful father. California and the Forestry profession has suffered a severe loss.

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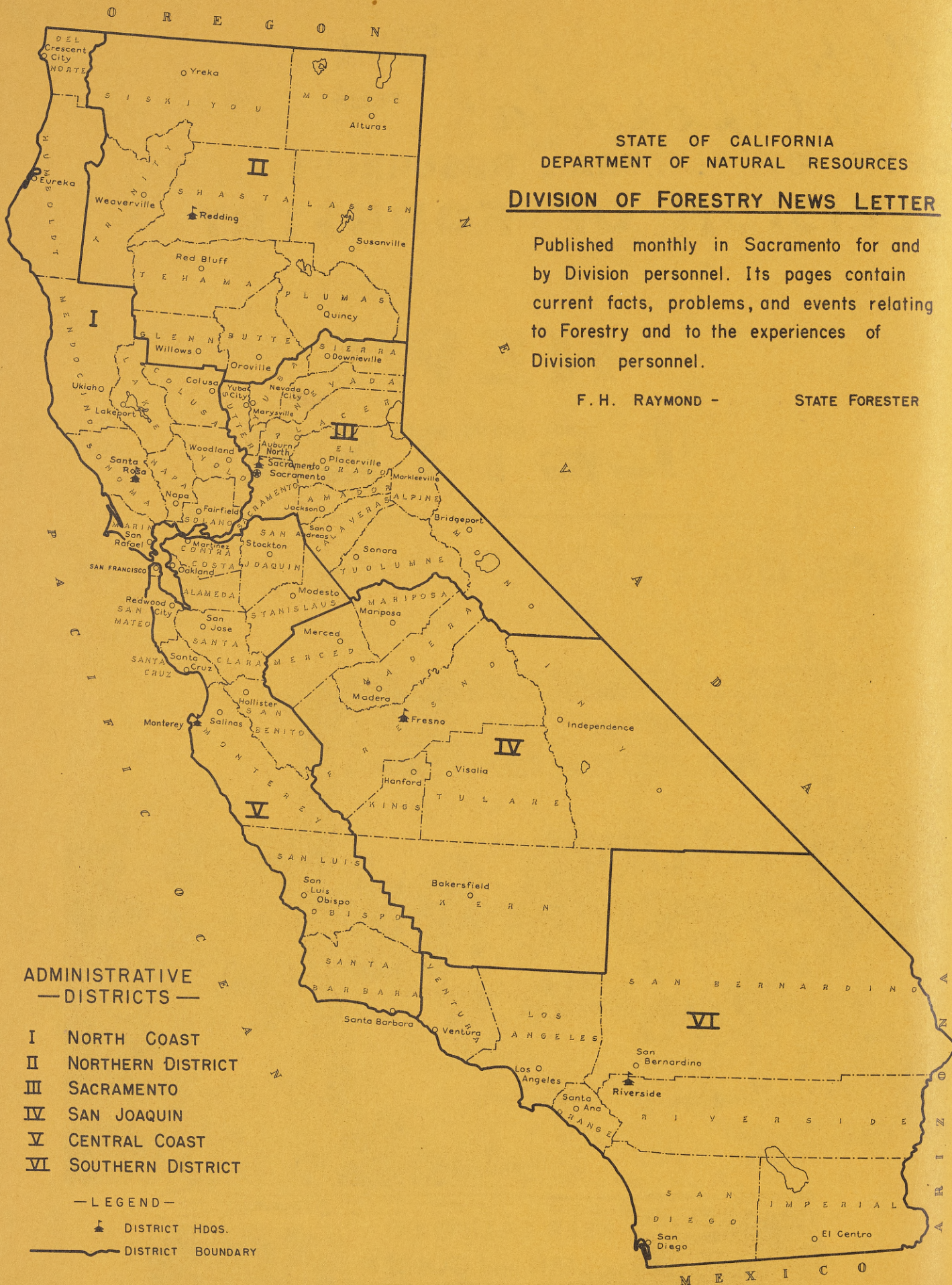
NEWS LETTER

AUGUST 1955

VOL. 14 No. 8



**KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN**



JULY ACTIVITIES

FOREST FIRE WORK LOAD: Normally during the month of July we experience a rather heavy fire suppression work load on forest and brush lands throughout the state, as well as in the grass and grain areas at lower levels. Although a slight increase in number of fires occurred in some areas, the over-all work load generally has been considerably less than last year for the same period. This condition undoubtedly was brought about by continuing favorable weather conditions throughout the month of July. The last few days of the month the fire weather conditions started ascending toward a critical level. During the period July 1 to 20 inclusive there were 145 forest fires burning a total of 3,433 acres of timber and watershed land protected by the Division. Most of this loss occurred in three fires; the Harbin Canyon fire in Lake County, the Fearrin fire in Humboldt County, and the Pole Canyon fire in Monterey County.

FOREST LAND PROTECTION: During the month of July the Division completed compilation of information obtained in June when a preliminary experimental project was conducted to determine the potential use of the T.V. camera for fire detection purposes.

Maps showing the latest status of unappropriated Public Domain Lands in the North Coastal, North, and South Coastal Districts were completed and sent to field administrators.

The new position of Fire Control Coordinator, recently authorized by the Legislature, was filled on July 18. This job will be concerned with coordinating field studies of fire protection on privately owned lands inside the National Forest boundaries that are protected by the U. S. Forest Service under contract with the state.

During the fire research project, "Operation Firestop", conducted last year by the public fire protection agencies, a new fire retardent chemical, "Gerstley Eorate", manufactured by the Pacific Coast Borax Company was tested. This month, the Division in cooperation with the company and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, modified a forest fire truck and initiated continuing studies to determine the chemical's usefulness on a practical field application basis.

FOREST AND RANGE MANAGEMENT: Forest Practice: The Forest Practice Committee of the South Sierra Pine Forest District made a field trip on July 12 and 13 to see various types of woods operations in the eastern edge of that district and to discuss the application of the rules in the vicinity of Truckee, Lake Tahoe, and Hope Valley.

The Forest Practice Committee of the North Sierra Pine Forest District assembled in Oroville on July 27 and spent a day looking over various woods operations in the southern portion of that district.

State Forests: A timber sale involving some 281,000 board feet of timber from Latour State Forest was awarded to Nick Lowry when sealed bids were opened in Redding on July 7. The timber was sold at the following rates per thousand board feet: red fir and white fir, "4.50; lodgepole pine, \$9.00; Jeffrey pine, sugar pine, and white pine, \$20.00. This salvage sale involves the cutting and removal primarily of mistletoe infected red fir for conversion of the area to Christmas tree production. This sale will bring the state some \$1,284 in revenue.

Small Woodland Council: During the month of July the Small Woodland Council, an organization of public and private foresters of which the Division is a member, released a series of eight special news releases to the daily and weekly newspapers of the timbered areas of California.

The special news releases consist of eight articles of approximately 400 words each with a cartoon to encourage small timberland owners to practice good forest management on their land. The articles explain in layman's language all phases of forest management to assist the small timber owner in realizing that his timber can be made a paying crop and still keep his trees in good growing condition. July 14 was the release date for the first article, the remaining articles to follow.

Reforestation: A 100 per cent survival count was made on Boggs Mountain State Forest in Lake County this month where 4,000 ponderosa pine and Douglas fir seedlings were planted on experimental areas, during January and March of this year.

On the three areas planted the survival counts ranged from 86% to 92.5%. As all the trees were shaded with shingles, it was noted that mortality was the greatest where the shingles had blown down or were knocked over by deer.

In one area, where a preliminary examination in April revealed nearly 90% of the trees were dying, the new examination showed a rather startling recovery with a 91% survival count.

Planting techniques employed appeared to be highly satisfactory and shading of the seedlings appears effective to date. Final judgment will have to await the survival count planned for November of this year.

Service Forestry: Accomplishments during the months of January to June, 1955, in the Service Forestry program continued to show improvement. Seven field foresters are employed in this activity. During the past six months 698 requests for service were received and acted upon. 383 forest landowners owning 41,460 acres were given forest management assistance. Improved cutting practices on 131 ownerships took place through the influence of service foresters. In addition to improved cutting practice, trees on 199 acres of land were pruned and seedlings were planted on 377 acres. Some 34 million board feet were harvested for a total stumpage value of \$245,000 to woodland owners through the Service Forestry program and 5,710 acres were saved from premature harvesting.

Range Improvement: During the current year 481 applications from ranchers for permits to do controlled burning for range improvement have been received. These applications show that burning is planned by private property owners on nearly 175,000 acres this season. These figures indicate a substantial reduction in this activity from last year when burning was done on a little more than 225,000 acres of land. Nearly 60 per cent of the applications were from the North Coast and the central Sierra Nevada foothills, with Mendocino and Tuolumne Counties being first and second, respectively, from the standpoint of acreage to be burned.

Range improvement personnel from Sacramento and Santa Rosa participated in a field meeting of the Sonoma County Association of Soil Conservation Districts, in the vicinity of Cloverdale, on July 18th. Methods used in making Soil-Vegetation Surveys were demonstrated and practical applications of the information obtained from these surveys were explained.

Controlled burning was done on 80 acres of the Division's Backbone Range Experimental Study Area in Shasta County on July 30th. On one plot of 40 acres the brush had been prepared for burning by mashing it down with a bulldozer blade; the second 40-acre plot was untreated. A modification of the "area ignition" technique was used in the burning.

HANDBOOK FOR TEACHING CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE-USE NOW AVAILABLE

Ann Arbor, July 25 --- The best means of helping children understand the importance of our natural resources, are expertly described by teachers in the, "Handbook For Teaching Conservation and Resource-use", a 450 page illustrated book, just completed by the National Association of Biology Teachers.

The publication was prepared by two-hundred teachers from thirty states and shows how they have incorporated conservation and resource-use teaching into the schools. The, "How-To-Do-It Stories", and 82 pictures will help other teachers and youth leaders see, "How To Get Started", "Where To Get Help", "What To Do In The Classroom", "How To Use The School Grounds and The Community", and how to develop such projects as school forests, school gardens, school camps, wildlife sanctuaries, outdoor laboratories, nature trails, and museums.

The material for the Handbook has been collected by the National Conservation Committee of the National Association of Biology Teachers since 1951 under the direction of Dr. Richard L. Weaver, the Project Leader, from the School of Natural Resources of the University of Michigan. The four-year project was financed by a grant from the American Nature Association.

The Handbook will be released in August through the office of the Project Leader, P. O. Box 2073, Ann Arbor, Michigan, at a cost of \$4.00 with a twenty-per cent discount to schools. The proceeds will be used by the National Committee to continue its conservation education activities in the various states.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT II

Recently this writer had the opportunity to spend several days along Hat Creek in eastern Shasta County, attending a Boys Vacation Project sponsored by the Redding Gun Club. Thirty-four Shasta County youths participated in a four-day play-all-you-want, eat-all-you-want, outing.

The entire four-day program, which authorities hope will become an annual event, was outlined strictly to please the twelve to eighteen year olds who attended the Vacation Project. The program was divided into four parts:

Fishing: Youths helped State Fish and Game officials plant trout in Hat Creek at the northwest edge of Lassen Volcanic National Park, where the outing was held. Afterward, each group participated for three hours in a course of fishing and fishing instruction.

Fire Arms: M/Sgt. William L. Morrison, of the United States Air Force, instructed the youths in the handling of rifles and shotguns. Each youth fired 12 gauge shotguns at clay targets and 22 rifles at stationary targets. At all times safety with fire arms was stressed.

Hiking: James Denny, Forest Technician of the California Division of Forestry, conducted hikes showing the youths the various kinds of flora and fauna to be found between the camp site and the Subway Caves. The Subway Caves are an odd formation of under ground tunnels within the old lava flows from Mount Lassen.

Riding: Each youth was given instruction in bridling and saddling horses and was taken on a three-hour horseback trip in the nearby forest.

Throughout the entire program forest fire prevention was stressed by the instructors.

Jess A. Graves, Shasta State Forest Ranger and former president of the Redding Gun Club, was assistant to Don Hemsted who was in charge of the Boys Vacation Project. Other assistants were, Deputy Sheriff Phil Stevenson, Redding Police Officers, Harold Snow and Robert Hubbert; State Highway Patrol Officer Ed Hansen; Fire Prevention Officer Raymond R. Higgins, and representatives of the California Department of Fish and Game. Fire Prevention Officer, Raymond R. Higgins, took sixteen mm color movies of the entire outing.

The Redding Elks Club provided a large trophy for the best all-around boy. Top boys in the individual parts of the program received trophies donated by the Redding Gun Club and local merchants. Ranger Graves presented the trophies to the winners at a campfire held the last evening of the outing. The youths were selected for the trip through the Shasta County Probation Office.

Robert O. Burchfield, County Probation Officer, said he hopes that the youths returning from the Vacation Project will say it was the best time they ever had.

Any reader, interested in arranging an outing of this kind with the help of local service clubs, etc., can get the particulars by contacting Ranger Jess Graves or this writer.

Raymond R. Higgins
Fire Prevention Officer

DISTRICT IV

In reviewing the Harvester Inspection cards, we believe that Assistant Ranger Gene Martin and his Foreman of Fresno County, have established a record in inspecting 428 harvesters, trucks, pickups, and hay balers, working in one assistant ranger district in a particular harvesting season. In any event, we can set this up as a record and are open to challenges.

It is thorough inspection such as this that results in reduced fires and a better understanding of the state fire laws and fire prevention problems by both owners and operators of equipment. The fact that only twenty pieces of equipment were found to be faulty indicates that Assistant Ranger Martin and staff are performing an outstanding job.

J. D. Rafferty
Fire Prevention Officer

TULARE COUNTY

Fire occurrence and acreage burned in Tulare County has been low up to date, thanks to the wonderful spring weather we have been having.

Most of the roadside burning in the County has been accomplished through the efforts of the Division of Forestry and the excellent cooperation of the local ranchers.

Probably the big news to come out of District IV is the establishment of the California Division of Forestry Employees' Association. We have our Constitution and By-Laws approved and are signing up members daily. We are now anxious to get all the other Districts to join with us so we can have a state-wide Association. Anyone desiring any information regarding the Association, write to me at 514 E. Harrison Street, Porterville, and I will be glad to supply you with a copy of our Constitution and By-Laws.

Richard E. Miralles
Assistant Ranger

On June 6, 1955, the ranchers and Fountain Springs fire crew started the roadside burning. What we here at Fountain Springs call the lower country was the first to be burned off. The first day was spent getting the bugs worked out, and organized, so the most that was burned that day was about five miles.

From the second day on, things really started to hum, and a total of fifteen miles was burned. The third day the lower country was finished, and the total was about thirty miles. Then the ranchers and their crews took a rest and straightened things up and waited for the high country to dry up. In the meantime, the Fountain Springs crew burned about ten more miles with the ranchers at Deer Creek, making a total of forty miles.

On the 27th day of June, the high country was ready to burn and so that was the next undertaking. The ranchers again turned out in force and the burn went on. The high country didn't go as fast as the low country and it took three days to burn twenty miles. To give the other Districts an idea of the ranchers who turned out for the burn, 30 ranchers were present. The crew at that time consisted of one Assistant Ranger, 2 fire fighter foremen, two fire truck drivers, and 8 fire fighters.

Some of the equipment that was on hand during the burn consisted of a tanker that was used as a mother truck and held 1400 gallons of water. It kept the rest of the trucks filled at all times and there was no stopping for water. Bean spray rigs, crewtrucks, and powerwagon were used.

Some of the interesting highlights that make this one of the most successful burns is the fact that prior to the burn the ranchers got together at Fountain Springs and elected their own fire boss and it was up to him as to when we burned, and how fast we went. The Forestry was represented by Assistant Ranger Voss and Foreman Friedrichs. Then on the last of the burning, the Fountain Springs crew was called out on a 30-acre brush fire and the ranchers finished the job of roadside burning.

On burning the roadside - both sides are done at the same time, and it is quite a sight to see everyone working as a team and things running smoothly between the Division of Forestry and the ranchers in the Fountain Springs Assistant Ranger

District. Thinking that this would be interesting to other Districts, I decided to write it up for the "News Letter".

FFF Paul Friedrichs
Fountain Springs

The weather this past month has been very unusual for this time of year. It has been rather cool.

Fire occurrence is also below normal. We are all keeping our fingers crossed, however, we feel that one important reason for the low fire occurrence is due to a good fire prevention program throughout the county.

Last year at this time, Zone III had 925 fires, while Zones I and II had 35 fires. This year Zone III has had 757 fires and Zones I and II, 16.

During the past month R. W. Nevins, Fire Training Officer, of the State Department of Education has been giving training courses in fire fighting in the Pixley and Porterville districts. Dick came up with an examination the other day in his advanced course at the Porterville station that had the brass looking in manuals and saying, "gee"! However, the course is well, and Mr. Nevins a very fine teacher.

E. A. Poe
Assistant Ranger

FIREMEN COLLABORATE

On August 14th the San Joaquin Firemens' Association held their annual picnic at Mooney Grove Park, Tulare County. Ranger Bill Mann and Visalia Fire Chief Walt Woods served as hosts arranging for refreshments, entertainment, etc., for the some 260 in attendance. Food was, by and large, via the pot luck route and greatly enjoyed by all. A very fine time was had by all. It would appear that the get-together was very beneficial to the fire service in general, as volunteer firemen, paid fire district, paid city and forestry employees all let their hair down and "rubbed shoulders rogether", which helps a great deal toward closer cooperation on joint fires.

John F. Rosar
Associate Ranger

DISTRICT V

District V is back in the limelight again this month with several transfers and new positions.

Associate Ranger Francis W. Bradford, San Benito County, transferred to Santa Cruz County to fill the vacancy left when Fred Keast came to the District Office.

Assistant Ranger Bob Ford of Santa Cruz County was promoted to Associate Ranger in San Benito County.

Forestry Trainee Ted Paul accepted the position of Assistant Ranger in Santa Cruz County. The folks of the District Office are all glad to see Ted get the position, and wish to congratulate him on the arrival of a daughter No. 4,

Dale Frances, just in time to help her old dad celebrate the new job. Lots of luck, Ted.

The personnel of District V wish to welcome Marvin Dodge to the Assistant Technician position at Ben Lomond Nursery. Marvin left an Assistant Ranger position in Mendocino County to take over here. Welcome to District V, Marvin!

Say, by the way, whatsamatter with the hunters this year? Five tough ones the first four days of deer season. Little careless this year maybe. San Luis Obispo gets the honors for the big one. Better luck next month.

Overheard: I don't feel too well, but I'm saving my sick leave till I'm healthy enough to enjoy it.

Oh well.....

Fred Terwilliger
Forestry Trainee

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

San Diego County was made the proud owner of two new stations the start of the fiscal year. So far its a kind of an Oak Tree operation as sites and buildings haven't been set up. New pumpers haven't been received yet either to put in the buildings we haven't got. The manpower is on the job and by nosing around in other counties' vehicle bonepiles we did scrounge up some old but good pumpers and the stations are in operation giving us better coverage.

Grace and Clark Rockwell have a new way of beating the heat this summer. They are co-owners in a boat and water ski outfit and say its great sport for hot weather. Sounds interesting but strenuous to "ye olde reporter". I'm more the shady patio or swimming pool type. Has anyone got an idea where they can be purchased for about a buck and a half down.

Foreman Dick Winterrowd is now the proud possessor of a brand new wife - good luck Dick.

That isn't a new car Ruth Hunter, San Diego County's personnel clerk has now, but with that shiny yellow paint job it looks pretty sharp.

F. M. Anderson returned from vacation in Yosemite and wants to know if its possible to trade the Great "Campo" Desert for the Merced River and some of our dogs for some of their trees to kind of level things out some. Not jealous you understand - just ready to horsetrade a little.

F. M. Anderson
San Diego County

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

District VI Headquarters has shed its old drab covering as of July 27 and slipped into its new sport coat - all four acres of it. Colors of outside walls, I am told, are a true Forestry Rose and Mauve. Interiors trend to sky Blue. Yard is Midnight Black.

The Riverside Chamber of Commerce is so pleased with our new layout that it is heading a public reception in about a month. Among other things, city officials will eat C of C food out of our District Fire Camp. We look forward to some of you being with us at that time rather than at your own fire camp since ours will be operated a little more leisurely - at least we are hoping for a continued season no more campaign minded than July was.

A few months ago, we reported FWP Keith Schrader had taken off for the Tennessee Hills. Now, we don't claim our climate had anything to do with bringing the other 7,000,000 people this way but Keith showed up within six weeks and merely said, "It rained every day." He is back at Oak Glen CDC Camp. Transfers within other camps include Joe Murphy to Rainbow and Lee Roy Worsham to Minnewawa.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Associate Ranger Fred Keast transferred from Santa Cruz County to replace Gervice Nash in the District V headquarters office.

Associate Ranger Francis Bradford transferred from San Benito County to replace Keast in Santa Cruz County.

Robert Ford, former Assistant Ranger in Santa Cruz County, has been appointed as Associate Ranger in San Benito County.

Theodore J. Paul has been appointed as Assistant Ranger in Santa Cruz County to replace Ford. He was formerly a Forestry Trainee in District V.

Assistant Ranger Denver Wood transferred from Humboldt County to Mendocino County, replacing John Dodge.

John Dodge has been appointed as Assistant Technician to take charge of the branch nursery at Ben Lomond, District V. He was formerly Assistant Ranger in Mendocino County.

Eugene C. Cummings has been reinstated as Assistant Ranger in Humboldt County to replace Denver Wood. He has been working as a forest fire fighter foreman since his return to the Division last year.

Lee Lange has transferred to the class forestry work project supervisor and is taking charge of the new District II camp. He was formerly the Associate Ranger in Shasta County.

Assistant Technician C. J. Eden has transferred from the Davis Nursery to take charge of the branch nursery at Magalia, District II.

Chesley Waklee, Forest Fire Fighter Foreman, has been assigned as a Trainee in District III.

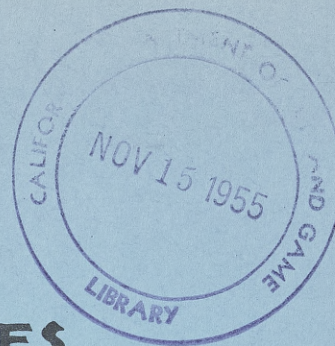
Paul Scott has been appointed as Assistant Ranger in San Bernardino County to a Schedule A position. This position was reclassified from Forest Fire Dispatcher which had been filled by Mr. Scott.

Dorothy Lewis, Personnel Supervisor

W.
*State of
California*

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

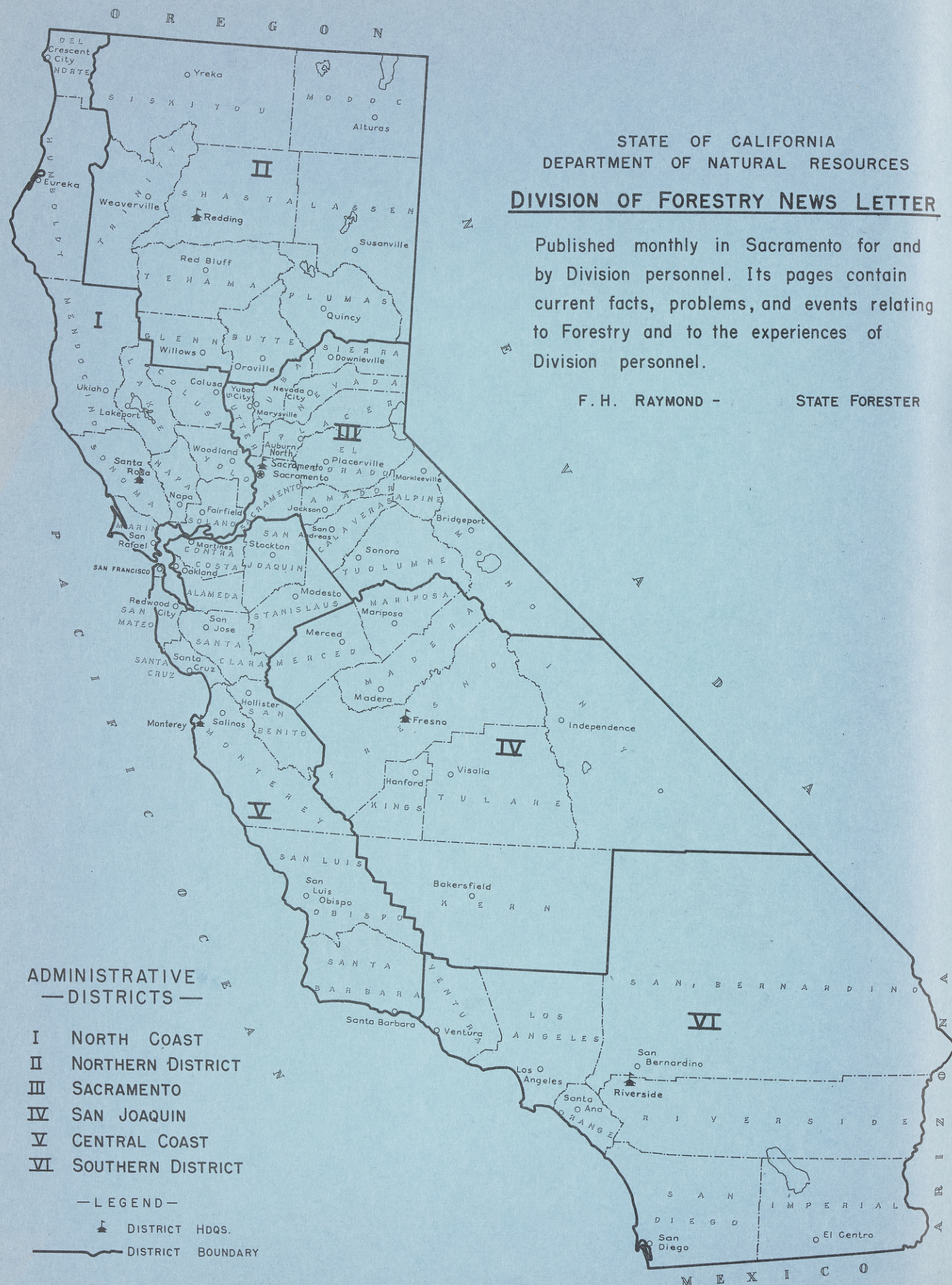


NEWS LETTER

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - STATE FORESTER



DIGGER PINE

DIGGER PINE

Scientific Name: Pinus sabiniana (pine-us-suh-bean-ee-ana)

Common Names: digger, bull, grey, pitch pine.

Location: Only in California; in a ring around the great interior valley of the Sacramento and San Joaquin. In the dry foothills from 500 to 4,000 feet elevation, mostly 1,000-3,000 feet. Often on poor and rocky soil where no other trees choose to grow. Valley and sidehills of the Inner Coast Range east of the redwood belt and east of the Santa Lucia Range. Throughout the Tehachapi Range. Digger pine generally grows singly or in very open stands. Thrives in hot, open exposures.

Associate Species: blue oak, interior live oak, valley oak, but mostly the chaparral species of manzanita, chamise, ceanothus, scrub oak.

Uses: Yellow-brown wood is generally coarse grained, light in weight, brittle, sometimes pitchy. Warps too much for lumber use. Used for little except fuel. The large rich seeds were important food for the so-called Digger Indians and the common name "digger pine" comes from this source.

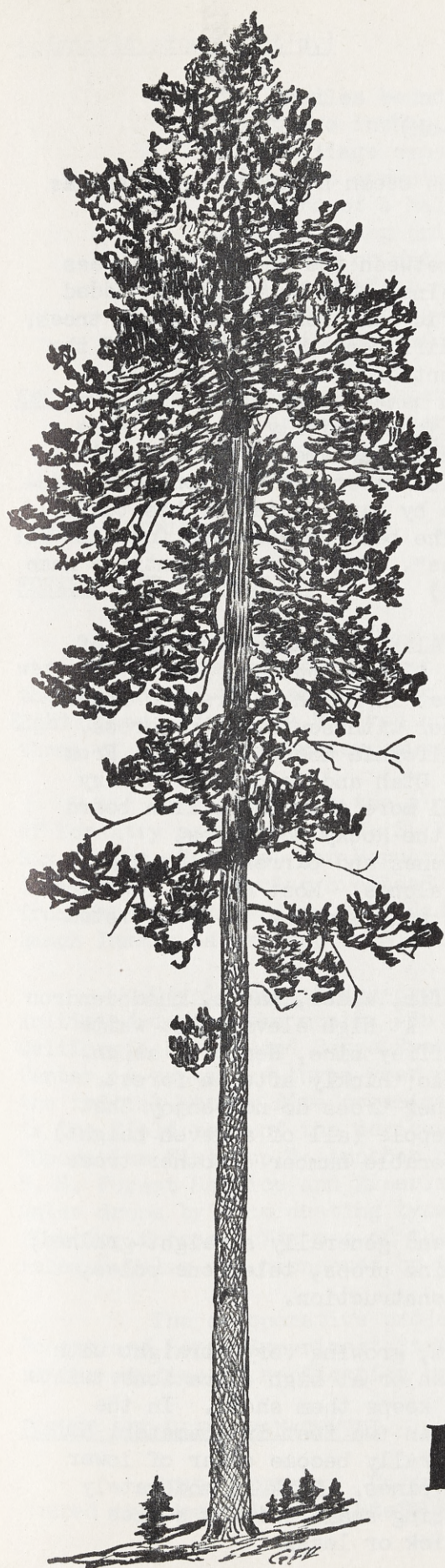
Identification: Easily identified at a distance by the thin foliage and branched trunk. Generally several main stems grow at angles away from vertical similar to oak and other broadleaf species. Old digger pines often have broken branch stems along the trunk.

Bark grey-brown and purplish, sometimes nearly black; about 2 inches thick with irregular ridges and small plates.

Needles in thin clumps growing generally around the outside of the lopsided roundish crown. Needles bound three together at base, 8 to 10 inches long, drooping, grey-green in color giving tree a dusted pale color.

Cones are tan-brown, large and rugged; often with sticky pitch on hard spiked scale tips; 6 to 10 inches long, rather symmetrical, 5 to 7 inches wide at top. Cones may hang near the ends of branches for several years. Winged seeds are chocolate colored nearly one inch long.

Confused With: Coulter pine because of the long needles and large cones (but Coulter pine has more luxuriant and darker foliage, cones more egg-shaped, sharp, curved spikes more prominent, trunk more straight and unbranched).



LODGEPOLE PINE

LODGEPOLE PINE

Scientific Name: Pinus contorta (pine-us-kon-tort-uh)

Common Names: Lodgepole pine, tamarack. (Along the ocean north of Point Arena: beach pine, shore pine.)

(Note: Some botanists distinguish between the ocean shore trees and those of the high mountains, thus requiring an added variety name to the scientific name for the mountain trees. This wide growth range and difference in appearance of the tree because of very different growing conditions also causes many different common names to be used, including, black, scrub, screw, coast, jack, prickly, tamarac pine and so forth. The most acceptable name of the mountain tree is "lodgepole pine" which refers to the long and wide-spread use made of this tree by many Indian tribes to build their tepees and baskets. The best common name for the sea shore tree is "beach pine". The proper scientific name any place is Pinus contorta.)

Location: From sea level to 11,000 feet; from Alaska to high mountains of northern Mexico. Along sea beaches, Alaska south to lower Mendocino County. 4,000 to 7,000 feet in north Sierra and Inner Coast Range; growth range rises higher with southward progress, 8,000 to 10,000 feet on Southern California mountain tops. From Alaska down the Rocky Mountains into Utah and Colorado. A very widespread species estimated to equal more than 22 billion board feet in total volume, most of it in the Rocky Mountains. Along ocean the tree grows on sand dunes and barrens. At higher elevations on colder north and east slopes. Most common in thick groves covering "wet meadows" of the high Sierra. A few twisted veterans climb to upper timberline.

Associate Species: Along the ocean: lowland white fir, alder, maple, rhododendron and other seacoast shrubs and trees. At high elevations: white fir, red fir, western white pine, Jeffrey pine, Hemlock, aspen. Because lodgepole pine seeds sprout so thickly after a forest fire opens the cones, and because other trees do not enjoy the cold wet flats, dense stands of lodgepole (all of an even height) are commonly found without an considerable number of other trees growing among them.

Uses: The pale reddish brown wood is hard and generally straight-grained; used for fuel, posts, fence rails, mine props, telephone poles, railroad ties, log cabin and ranch construction.

Identification: In dense stands the trunks are slim, growing very straight with many limbs. Rough weather along ocean or at high elevations twists the tree into "contorted" shapes and keeps them short. In the Sierra large trees are rarely more than two feet in diameter, 50 feet high. Boles of older trees naturally become clear of lower branches but not so readily as other pines. Bark is moderately rough and ridged, gray brown, developing small crinkly scales about two inches square; one inch thick or less.

Lodgepole pine (cont'd.)

Two needles bound at base in pairs, stiff and slightly curved, about two inches long, bright yellow-green. Branches well covered with foliage especially on younger trees. Cones 1 to 2 inches long, not symmetrical, grow tight against branch sometimes in clusters of a half dozen, pale brown, tight and hard scales have small curving prickle. Cones hang on branches remaining closed for years or until heat of fire opens them on the tree. Seeds will grow after many years storage, and after fire spreads through the forest young lodgepole pine grows with great abundance if sunlight is plentiful.

Confused with: Sugar and western white pine (in the mountains) because the needles and trunks appear somewhat similar at a distance. Along the Humboldt and Mendocino Coast bishop pine somewhat resembles beach pine.

AUGUST ACTIVITIES

FOREST LAND PROTECTION

Fire Business: Fire weather conditions throughout the month of August were not severe, although a hot spell during the first of the month, combined with the opening of the coastal deer season resulted in increased fire occurrence. Eight fires, over five hundred acres in size, were controlled during this period, three of which were hunter caused.

In addition to the above fires on state protected lands, the Division of Forestry assisted the U. S. Forest Service in controlling fires on the Tahoe, Six Rivers, Sequoia, San Bernardino, Los Padres, and Angeles National Forests. In addition to regular overhead supplied from our field forces, we dispatched men from San Quentin Prison, Soledad and Chino Medium Security Prisons, and the Burnt Ranch Inmate Labor Camp in Siskiyou County.

Development & Research: Two cooperative fire control programs were initiated during the month. In co-operation with the U. S. Forest Service, California Forest and Range Experiment Station, and Arcadia Equipment Development Center, a tentative three-year program was prepared to integrate helicopters into the initial attack fire organization as fire suppression tools. This, in effect, is the field test of the devices and techniques developed during last year's, "Operation Firestop." Another co-operative experiment was conducted with the U. S. Forest Service and Experiment Station to determine the effectiveness of bulk water drops by crop dusting type aircraft to supplement initial attack ground fire fighting forces. The use of this equipment and the development of a satisfactory release valve was pioneered by the Mendocino National Forest.

The co-operative project with the U. S. Forest Service, California Forest and Range Experiment Station on the use of chemical retardants was extended to the studies of application by aircraft utilizing agricultural type machines.

FOREST AND RANGE MANAGEMENT

State Forests: On August 12th and 13th the State Board of Forestry toured the Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County to review the forestry

program being conducted on this demonstrational forest and to see the many accomplishments made there in recent years. The pending exchange of state school land parcels scattered throughout many National Forest lands for adjacent Sequoia National Forest lands was reviewed by the Board. The Board of Forestry also reviewed the application of blister rust control and sugar pine management on Mountain Home State Forest.

On August 25th the State Board of Forestry made a tour of the Jackson State Forest, which is operated by the Division as a forest management demonstrational area. While on the Forest, the Board visited the timber sale areas, the Parlin Fork Honor Camp and nursery, the Mendocino Woodlands recreational area, and reviewed the Jackson State Forest Management program and numerous work projects accomplished since the acquisition of the Forest in 1947.

The timber sale on the Ellen Pickett State Forest awarded to Atlasta Ranch and Logging Enterprises in May of 1954 was recently completed. A total of 382,620 board feet of pine and Douglas fir timber was logged from the Forest bringing a return to the state of \$5,654.94. The over-mature, defective, and poor-risk trees were cut and removed under a tree selection cutting system leaving the thrifty young trees for future growth.

Forest Practices: The State Board of Forestry, accompanied by members of the Forestry sub-committee of the Assembly Interim Committee on Conservation, Planning, and Public Works, on August 25th to 27th made a tour of Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties observing logging and other forest practices.

Nursery: A report on the State Forest Nursery program was presented to the State Board of Forestry on August 25th in Fort Bragg. During the fiscal year 1954-55 the California State Forest Nurseries sold 947,435 seedlings for \$17,244 as compared with 443,450 trees for \$12,933 during the 1953-54 season. Trees distributed for forest products plantings including Christmas tree plantations and farm woodlots, accounted for 86% or 811,000 trees. In the previous year 63% or 275,000 were classed in this category. Erosion control and farm windbreak plantings this season utilized 9% or 88,000 trees, while trees for landscaping public grounds and roadside planting accounted for the remaining 5% or 48,000 trees. The previous year these last two categories were 26% or 112,000 trees and 11% or 51,000 trees. Division personnel during the 1954-55 planting season planted 74,000 trees on state land.

The highlights of the 1954-55 seed collection and processing program were presented to the State Board of Forestry at this same meeting. Some 1,292 sacks of cones were collected during 1954 yielding 2,473 pounds of clean seed as compared with 1,093 sacks yielding 2,009 pounds of seed the previous year. In the past seven years (1948-54) the Division collected 5,639 sacks of cones yielding 11,726½ pounds of clean seed. For the seven years 338,340 pounds or 169.17 tons of cones were collected. Field reports on cone prospects for 1955 indicate that it will be a poor year for nearly all species. Prospects appear to be the poorest for many years.

The Board of Forestry meeting in Eureka on August 26, 1955, approved the prices established by the State Forester for the sale of nursery stock by the State Forest Nurseries for the 1955-56 season as prescribed by law. These prices are similar to last year's with the exception of species which were not available last year. There will be approximately 1,800,000 coniferous trees available for sale during the coming selling season.

A FOREST FIRE INCIDENT

The devastating McGee fire of August and September 1955, was given considerable newspaper and radio publicity throughout the entire nation including a story in Time Magazine, especially because of its threat to the famous Sierra redwoods, including the Boole and General Grant trees. It was a costly fire to control burning in difficult terrain during extremely adverse weather conditions. Many agencies and private parties co-operated with the Sequoia National Forest in fighting the fire.

This writing involves only one small incident along the fire line during the seventh and eighth days of September. It is a story of a problem in practical hydraulics. The successful solution to that problem no doubt established a new record for lifting water by pumper fire trucks.

The fire had moved eastward and northeastward, looping around the northwest extension of Kings Canyon National Park where the famous General Grant tree stands. The fire boss considered the two-hour trip of water-carrying tankers down from Wilsonia into Hume Lake and back to supply pumper trucks working along the fire line. The time element was too expensive. So a crew of men and five Office of Civilian Defense pumper units were assigned the task of pumping water from Sequoia Lake to the summit at Wilsonia. Sequoia Lake is at about 4,900 feet elevation, two (airline) miles west of the summit and 1,100 feet lower in elevation. From the high elevation pumper units and mother tankers could obtain a supply of precious water and move generally downhill to all accessible parts of the fire line.

At the summit a reservoir was installed. It was composed of four canvas tanks each holding 1,500 gallons and constructed especially for such a purpose by the inmates of Iron Mine Department of Corrections' forestry camp.

But the forest fire fighters assigned to the waterlift were operating under difficulties that they could hardly be expected to surmount except with good fortune and endless experiment. Here was a precise problem in hydraulics and they were not even equipped with instruments to indicate the true elevation of the fire truck units. In order to maintain a constant flow of water through the relay of pumps, it was absolutely necessary to keep each lower hose line charged with enough water to prevent its collapse.

On September 7 men experienced in hydraulics were called in. It was calculated that it was necessary to keep a full hose at ten to fifteen pounds pressure from the first pumper with a discharge pressure of 250 pounds through 2,500 feet of hose with 200 to 230 feet difference of elevation between pumpers. 85 to 90% efficiency through the series of boosters should deliver at least 150 g.p.m. at the end of the line.

Before midnight it had been determined that Number 3 truck should be moved downhill one hundred feet in elevation. This shift produced an outflow of water of 50 gallons per minute at the summit.

The next day it was obvious that the 5,750 foot lineal distance between Number 5 truck and the summit, plus a vertical lift of 240 feet, was too much. On this leg several older hose lengths had ripped under the heavy pressure.

When a sixth pumper unit was integrated into the lift above Number 5

On September 8th, the outflow rose to 130 gallons per minute and success.

There was a goodly supply of the new O.C.D. aluminum six-inch pipe available, but this conduit was set aside in favor of canvas jacket hose. It was intended that the aluminum pipe would be more useable as a gravity line toward the fire line.

Of the canvas jacket hose there was approximately 10,000 feet of nearly new $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch line and about 6,000 feet of older hose. The length of the lay from Sequoia Lake to the summit reservoir was approximately three miles.

The lowest pumper drafted water directly from the lake. Each of the six truck drivers along the route did commendable work in maintaining a uniformly constant pump pressure on the rising water. At the summit another pumper was detailed to standby to pump water from the reservoir to waiting tankers while others were being fed from the main inflow. Intercommunication between the seven units from Sequoia Lake to the reservoir was maintained by handie-talkie radio.

Elevations were obtained by altimeter which could be conveniently checked at a bench mark near the summit.

C H A R T
Water Uplift Project, McGee Fire
September 8, 1955

Pumper Position	Location	* Elev.	Diff. Elev. Upward (feet)	Hose Length (feet)	Suction Pressure	Discharge Pressure	Motor R.P.M.
1	Sequoia L.	4,900	**	0	-5	250	2100
2	in line	5,120	220	2750	18	245	2100
3	in line	5,340	220	2250	18	228	1510
4***	in line	5,560	220	3250	0	170	1500
5	in line	5,760	200	2300	10	160	1600
6	in line	5,920	160	1750	20	180	1850
	Summit	6,000	<u>80</u>	<u>4000</u>			
			1100	16300			

*Altimeter readings from summit bench datum.

** Drafting directly from lake.

*** Unit later replaced for efficiency decline.

Office of State Forester
September 12, 1955

DR. WALTER MULFORD

Too many foresters in Region V it will be learned with regret that Dr. Mulford passed away last week at the St. Helena Sanitarium, following a short illness. Dr. Mulford will be remembered by some of our senior foresters as the first dean of the School of Forestry established at University of California in 1947. Prior to that time he headed the University's division of forestry when it was established in 1914. In later years Dr. Mulford was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and of the Society of American Foresters of which he was president in 1924. Before coming to California, he served as Connecticut's first State Forester 1901-1904 and with the U. S. Forest Service 1904-1905. He was a fellow of the California Academy of Sciences.

ON LEAVING REGION FIVE

I will be leaving shortly for Washington to assume my new duties on the Chief's staff.

Nearly five years in Region Five have passed all too quickly. I have enjoyed and shared the pride of working with the exceptionally devoted group of R-5er's from the beginning. I have been continually challenged to keep geared to the expanding horizons and increasing responsibilities of the Region. Progress has been rapid but at the same time steady and solid because of you. Everything you have accomplished and plan for the future is appreciated.

I wish it were possible to talk to each of you personally. But time dictates that I take this means to tell you of the pleasure and happiness my family and I have known in Region 5. We shall be looking forward to future visits with you either here or in Washington. Our best wishes go to all of you and the Region.

Clare Hendee
Regional Forester

California Log
September 15, 1955

OUT OF THE WOODS by Jim Stevens

King of the Frontier...Davy Crockett was scarcely born back there in the year of 1786 before the folks of the Tennessee woods and rivers started to tell big stories about him.

"How could the Crocketts have themselves a baby boy?", a Mississippi River raftsmen wanted to know. "They are too scroungin' poor to afford a stork."

"The gov'ment took charge", said the news bearer. "They put a gov'ment buzzard to work and brought the infant in free."

"Seven buzzards it took, the babe was so hefty and hard to handle", a woodsman argued. "Bull buzzards they was, biggest in the gov'ment service."

That was the first of a string of bird stories that followed Davy Crockett through his lifetime and kept on going with the Frontier as it moved westward.

The real Hon. David Crockett came out of the Tennessee wilderness to make himself favorably known by service in his state's legislature, then by two terms in Congress.

Like many adventurous Tennessee riflemen of his time, David Crockett traveled to Texas to fight for the independence of the Lone Star Republic. He was one of the band of heroes that died defending the Alamo in 1836.

Ma Mandy Crockett... The Davy Crockett of the big stories lived on in the Davy Crockett Almanacs that were published every year from 1832 up to 1857. People read the stories and told them again and again from corner to corner of the country and in all locations in between. In the stories Davy Crockett roved from Texas to Canada and out to Oregon. Often one story would contradict another one. But all agreed that Davy was a poor boy.

The stories told that Davy's Ma Mandy worked out for a family that lived across the Mississippi, in Arkansas. Even when the old river was in flood Mandy Crockett would cross to work early each morning and cross back in the evening shades. She kept her ax along. Each crossing Ma Mandy would chop down a big loblolly pine on the river bank.

Then across the wide river she would go, perched sidewise on the trimmed tree, using her apron for a sail and her left leg for a rudder. Rarely she would use her left foot to paddle also. It would commonly make trouble when she did, as every kick she made would set a thundering big wave billowing from bank to bank, swamping all boats.

The Catfish Catcher..... Pa Crockett would seldom work out and he loathed to farm. But he was prime at catfishing whenever he could bring himself to do it. For little Davy he did take pains to put himself out.

Once three men and a boy saw Pa Crockett dive from a raft in the middle of the old river, and come up with a sixty-pound catfish in his teeth. They knew, for they helped him weigh it.

While Davy was still a very young infant he was given to his Uncle Roarious and Aunt Screechy to raise. Nobody lived farther back in the Tennessee backwoods than they did. They were proper people to fetch him up.

Little Davy was fed on fresh panther milk night and day, with bear milk for his Sunday dinners. The same riverman who told about the buzzards bringing the infant also vowed that Aunt Screechy mixed his pap from rattlesnake eggs. She was accused of it, and she denied it.

"They were plain, honest, tasty eel eggs," Aunt Screechy declared.

A spoon carved from a buffalo's hoof, with an eagle's leg for a handle was the first trick fixed by Uncle Roarious for the dewy infant. Davy's rattle was a plugged buffalo horn primed with grapeshot. On nights of howling wind Davy was lashed to the top of a tall sycamore, and when the wind would swing him handsome and high he could be heard cooing for a mile.

Such tender care did wonders for the future king of the wild frontier....

MERIT AWARD

One of the largest Merit Awards made in the month of September went to Associate Ranger John D. Otter of District V. He was awarded \$150 for his development of the use of small scale stereograms of aerial photographs for use in fire control.

Quoted below is an account of the award which appeared in "The California State Employee:"

"These small-scale photographs take very little room in an aircraft as compared with the old aerial maps formerly used, allow thorough coverage of terrain and give required information to the ground crews. The information is plotted on small maps and these are dropped in duplicate from the airplane to the ground crews. The shape and direction of the fire is plotted, as well as strategic points at which to build firebreaks and all other information necessary to the fire fighters on the ground. Otter's idea which was developed solely by him has received national recognition and has been published in the Journal of Forestry."

Copies of the complete suggestion can be obtained by request to the State Forester.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

There have been few personnel changes during the last month and a half.

Joe Treckeme, Delineator, has been appointed in the Sacramento office to replace Fred Gordon, who resigned. Mr. Treckeme was formerly with the Division of Highways.

Lon E. Spharler is the new Forestry Trainee in District I. He formerly worked in District II as a seasonal log scaler.

James D. Rafferty, Forest Fire Prevention Officer, has resigned his position in District IV. To date a replacement has not been found.

Forest Fire Fighter Foreman Warren D. Shaw has been assigned to the Trainee position in District IV. He formerly worked in District V.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT II

Many smokes have risen and many logs have been hauled up the jack ladder since the foresters of Siskiyou County last entered this bull session of the News Letter. We've been so dry up here (8.13" of precipitation in Yreka since July 1, 1954) that our tongues are thick and full of cotton; difficult to utter a word.

But fall appears to be on the horizon and the salmon are running, so the worst is about over.

Best salmon run in the Klamath River in years. The current count already exceeds last year's total. The finned creatures are giving our personnel

one whale of a bad time. Associate Bob Green (Note to District VI: there has also been a promotion in dignity, you see; no more "Lefty") was standing in a riffle and calmly casting away the other morning when suddenly a young monster ran smack into one of his legs. Bob said he didn't know who was more surprised. He took off for the safety of the bank to escape from the "sea serpent." Then he looked around and saw a large salmon hydroplaning along the surface of the water a couple hundred feet away. A likely story!

A little later Bob hooked into a salmon only to lose him and then, to his surprise, immediately hooked into about an 18" trout while still retrieving his line, he got the trout near the bank and reached for his net. Whoops! No net! A few seconds later, no trout!

A few days later Dispatcher Larry Kirton hooked one THIS BIG! It was quite a struggle, but everything was going fine--until--the snap of his swivel was straightened out by the piscatorial Paul Bunyan. Well, that fish has become famous anyhow, through the descriptive words of Kirton.

We'd invite you all up except that by the time you read this notice and drool for a few minutes, we shall have hooked all the critters in the Klamath, whether we keep them or not.

Incidentally, we wish to thank Humboldt County for allowing all these salmon to get past those log jams at the mouth of the Klamath. Any fish labeled, "Siskiyou", is ours, gentlemen!

WE NEED HELP - One of our big administrative jobs this coming winter in Siskiyou County will be to revise our training manual for fire control personnel. The revision will practically amount to an entirely new beginning. As you all realize, each county has its own peculiar training problems within the Division's various functions. For instance, here in Siskiyou we have an extensive area of juniper - cheat grass type, and another area of sagebrush, and another area of high altitude timber where four-hour hikes to lightning strikes is not uncommon. We have the highest lightning fire occurrence in the Division and therefore must gear our training to meet this special problem.

But in the over-all analysis most of our training will be similar to that of all other ranger units in the Division. Therefore, we would very much appreciate borrowing from the rest of your units as many different training manuals as possible so that we might take advantage of all your good thinking and prepare ourselves as good a manual as possible. We'll return all manuals received.

We have heard of manuals in Districts I and VI and in Tuolumne County. Undoubtedly there are many others. We extend our thanks before hand for any help you can give us.

Clint Phillips
State Forest Ranger

NEWS FROM LATOUR SPIKE CAMP

Latour Spike Camp was closed up for the nite. All lights were out and everyone asleep although it was only 10 o'clock, but at Latour in the crisp night air, sleep comes early.

Suddenly there was a tremendous commotion in the mess hall. Screams in a Canton tongue split the air and everybody rose a foot from bed. It seems an old bear had decided to visit cook Joe Montuey for an evening snack. This old bruin didn't believe in doors, they were locked anyway, so he proceeded to go in via a window by removing casement and window both intact and placing beside the wall. He was attempting an entrance into the cook's quarters, but Joe had been busy and the door into his room was well barricaded. One report says that at this time Joe was under his bed armed with a meat cleaver, well prepared to do battle if bruin broke through, but we don't believe this story. In the meantime, the light plant had been turned on and Hank Meineken and gang had their guns so bruin departed to the tall timber with some lead in him. Several shots were fired as the bear departed, but it was not until the next day that Bruin could be found and dispatched. So now Latour has a nice new bear rug and all is peace and quiet at the spike camp.

Billie Robinson
District II

DISTRICT IV HEADQUARTERS

ANNUAL U.S. FOREST SERVICE REVIEW

In conducting our annual review of personnel and facilities on the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests supported by State funds, we had a real good team. This year we were fortunate in having our new CDF-USFS co-ordinator, Gervich Nash, with us, along with Don Bauer, Clarke-McNary inspector for Region 5 of the U. S. Forest Service. A thorough review was made and some of our findings will surely be helpful, not only to district personnel, but to both Nash and Bauer who are constantly working on State-Federal relationships.

I was also fortunate in having Mr. William Branch of the Division of State and Private Forestry, U. S. Forest Service, accompany me on the general review of personnel and facilities in Inyo National Forest. One point of interest during our trip on the Inyo Forest was the interest shown by the County of Inyo and the City of Los Angeles in regards to the question of State responsibility lands adjacent to the Inyo National Forest.

VISITORS TO MT. HOME STATE FOREST

Members of the Board of Forestry Rosecrans, Hardison, and Pendergrast, in company with Director Nelson, State Forester Raymond, and Forest Manager Arvola, spent August 19th on the Mt. Home State Forest. Here they inspected work being done in experimental thinning and pruning of sugar pine and Sierra Redwood stands, and in the poisoning of oak to release commercial coniferous trees for better growth. The tour included a short hike through the Redwoods and a look at the reproduction being secured following logging. The group was guests of the CDC camp for lunch.

TULE RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

A meeting was held August 23-25 to discuss an application of the Tule River Conservation District for planning assistance under Public Law 566. Since this was the first such meeting held in the State, it had considerable significance. The Division of Forestry had a dual purpose at the meeting in that we were not only representing a public agency, which might be able to furnish valuable information on future planning, but also as a property owner in the Conservation District since the Mt. Home State Forest is located in this District. The

meeting brought out many points of interest, particularly the Water Rights problem. Some seven agencies were represented at the meeting.

LETTER FROM RALPH F. MITCHELL

We quote a letter received from Ralph F. Mitchell, Secretary, Sequoia Lake Conference of Young Men's Christian Associations of Fresno:

"The members of our Board of Trustees recently held a meeting at Sequoia Lake and instructed me to convey their appreciation for the fine service rendered by the Division of Forestry and other agencies during the recent fire.

"We are truly thankful that the Y.M.C.A. camps and surrounding forests were saved for future generations of young people."

FORMER BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBER PASSES

At the suggestion of Director DeWitt Nelson of the Department of Natural Resources, I will try to pay tribute to a very personal friend, and a friend of conservation in all its aspects at both the State and National levels.

Ernest G. Dudley, former Board of Forestry member, passed away at his home at 1710 Waverly Street, Palo Alto, on July 13, 1955. Had Ernest lived until August, he would have been 75 years of age.

On my assignment to Tulare County in May, 1927, naturally, I looked for a conservation leader and I found just that in Ernest Dudley. I personally owe much to Ernest for his help in organizing fire protection in Tulare County, and to his help throughout the years wherever he happened to be. He was a member of the California State Board of Forestry representing Agriculture during the years 1931 to 1936. He was a real leader on that particular Board of Forestry, and he was noted for being a man with the courage of his convictions. Although some could not agree with him, they admired him for his forthright thinking and candor. He was extremely helpful in starting the CCC program on a state-wide basis, and he took a keen personal interest in the starting of the Maxon Ranch CCC Camp on the south fork of the Kaweah River in Tulare County. Many times Ernest had donated the time of his hired help and his farm machinery when by doing so was a personal sacrifice, yet he wanted to see things done and was so happy that he was in a position to be of help.

It appeared to me that Ernest received a great deal of personal satisfaction from doing the things he wanted. After graduating from Standord in 1908, Ernest attended the Yale Forestry School and during that time married Helen Lewis. Returning to Palo Alto in 1909, he went to work with the U. S. Forest Service. His tour of duty with the U. S. Forest Service placed him in Montana, Idaho, and the Sierra National Forest here in California. During the San Diego World's Fair he was a lecturer on conservation of natural resources. He became assistant professor in New York State College of Forestry in Syracuse, after serving a portion of the year in the office of the Forest Service in San Francisco.

During the thirty years that Ernest and Helen lived in Exeter, he developed a highly productive deciduous orchard, and constructed a very spacious home where he and Helen so loved to entertain their friends and friends of conservation. He served as Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee of the San Joaquin Valley Council for the California State Chamber of Commerce for

seven years, and served on many of the special committees of that organization. In 1946, due to Ernest's poor health, he and Helen returned to Palo Alto where again they were leaders in the conservation movement. It was natural for them to return to Palo Alto because of their many friends who resided there from their Stanford University days, and the fact that Ernest's uncle, Professor William Russell Dudley was a former instructor in that University.

At Stanford will be found the Dudley Herbarium, which consists of materials Ernest helped to collect as a student, and also specimens from Baja, California, expeditions which he financed in 1928 and 1929.

Due credit to a man such as Ernest would fill a book, and would take a person with more talent than I to set forth the good deeds which he performed for conservation. I can say that conservation on a National and State level has lost a true, loyal friend and supporter. I am sure his reward has been in part the satisfaction he had by contributing to conservation throughout the years. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his loving wife. I know she will be looking forward to seeing Ernest's friends and hers from time to time.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

MADERA COUNTY

Chicago had its fire started by a cow and now Madera County had a fire started by a snake. It seems a Mrs. Leach of the Fairmead District had a snake take up residence in a small storage shed behind her house. Not having any men around her house, Mrs. Leach took it upon herself to rid the place of the viper. Placing some oily rags in a bucket, she set them on fire and proceeded towards the shed to smoke the snake out. The snake having other ideas, started out the door at the same time. Results: Mrs. Leach going one way, snake going the other way, and the storage shed going up in flames! Driver Frank Coffeen, of our Berenda Station, is stuck on making out the fire report. Was the causal agent a "local resident" or a "non-local snake"?

Chowchilla Schedule "A" Driver Delbert Burnett and Mrs. Burnett announce the arrival of a new baby girl. Congratulations!

Tom Peabody, Equipment Operator at Madera headquarters, had been notified that he was one of the lucky ones in a recent drawing for homesteads at Burley, Idaho. Tom took off to see if he would like those cold Idaho winters.

Madera County's Champion Fisherman, Associate Williams, took the Mrs. deep-sea fishing at Santa Cruz last week. Final score: Brad - Zero, Mrs. Williams - a nice 20-pound salmon.

Assistant Ranger Kessler and District Patrolman Morrow are working on getting the Division of Forestry booth at the Madera Fair in shape. The theme this year will be fire prevention in the home with some action pictures taken of various fires.

Gerald McCarty, Dispatcher

KINGS COUNTY

Bids have been awarded to P. E. Van Pelt for two new 750 GPM combination pumpers on 56 model Ford F-9 chassis. The combined efforts of the Kings County Farm Bureau and Grange were of great assistance in obtaining these two pieces of equipment, therefore, arrival of these units are anxiously awaited by the ranchers, as well as the Department.

Associate Ranger Lindley on vacation reports that fishing is the best in Montana and an abundance of game in Canada.

For the benefit of duck hunters in the south, an unusual number of ducks has been stopping off in the Tulare Lake area on their way south and some of the old timers report that they have never seen so many ducks.

J. T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

LETTER TO RANGER AUSTIN FROM HOWARD V. JACK, PRESIDENT, RANCHO CHOLAME

"With reference to the recent fire which burned portions of our Cottonwood Ranch and also burned parts of two other ranches, please be advised that our employees, who assisted in fighting the fire, speak in terms of the highest praise of the efficient work done by the Forestry Department.

"The efforts of individual ranchers, without heavy equipment, does not result in much efficiency in checking a fire in timber and brushy lands. It was the well-organized use of bulldozers by the Forestry officials that resulted in checking the flames.

"We noted the long hours put in by your leaders during the critical time and also observed the constant work done by your local man at Parkfield, Sam Etter. Our purpose in writing this letter is simply to express our gratitude for the splendid job done by the Forestry Department."

Fred W. Keast
Associate Ranger

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

"It was the summer of 1930 that I first drove a fire truck for the Division of Forestry", Mr. George Curtis stated on the afternoon of his retirement. Mr. Curtis drove a 1928 Marlin Fire truck believed to have been one of the first state fire trucks purchased for operation and coverage of Santa Cruz and Santa Clara Counties. It was then stationed on the Summit between the two counties for dispatch to either side.

It was after the 1930 fire season that Mr. Curtis decided to go into the trucking business until 1936. During the summer of 1936 he realized Forestry would be an interesting career and decided to try it again, and since then, until this year on August 31, marks seventeen years of continuous state service.

During this period he has been a forest fire truck driver, forest fire lookout, laborer, watchman, and a forest fire fighter foreman. Of all these positions, he has favored his lookout duty at the famous Loma Pireta Lookout

which overlooks five central California counties.

He has worked under the supervision of three different rangers: Donald King (1930); Walt Winters (1936-1942); and George Britton (1942-1955).

When he was asked for advice for the new and younger employee he looked down and smiled as he always did in the past when we would present him with a problem, or a request for something almost impossible. However, he always had an answer, with a word of advice.

We will lose Foreman Curtis and we will miss him, but Mrs. Curtis has a large and beautiful garden, and we are sure she won't mind his assistance. Later on he plans a trip with plenty of relaxation. Good fishing, Mr. Curtis!

E. R. "Sam" Garza
Forest Fire Dispatcher

AERIAL IGNITION

Indirectly, as a result of Assistant Ranger Dick Miralles' participation in Operation Firestop last year, what we think to be an outstanding control burn resulted within the Tule District, Tulare County. We say outstanding because a good burn resulted after the area had been heavily grazed and was conducted early in the season with burning conditions not too good, (90° temperature, 34% humidity).

The burn consisted of 1,000 acres grass-woodland with rather heavy encroachment of brush, much of the latter being crushed. The entire area was contained by roads or 'dozer constructed firebreaks. The area varied from flat to steep with about 500' variance in elevation. There were present some 90 co-operating ranchers with 22 pieces of pumping equipment.

The burn was touched off at 1:30 P.M. by means of "Skyfire" Grenades strategically dropped from a helicopter near the center of the area, but a little to the windward side. The 'Copter worked at 200 - 500' above the area. Grenades were dropped approximately 1 to each 10 acres. When about 1/2 of the area was burning which was 15 minutes after firing was commenced, the 'copter rose to 1,000' elevation which was to signal the ground crew surrounding the area to commence firing the perimeter. About 50 of the ground crew very quickly fired the perimeter. The fire burning quite hot in the center of the area pulled all perimeter fire to the center, as might be expected of the original convection column. Forty-five minutes after the 'copter took off the entire area was burned out and only heavy fuels remained burning. All but a few patrolmen were pulled off the line at that time to enjoy the usual feast and released to go home.

The ranchers, most of whom were originally doubtful of the success of the burn, were highly pleased by the fine burn which they attributed to the area ignition made possible with ease by use of 'copter and grenades.

It appears that by expending \$100.00, which was the combined cost of the grenades and the 'copter, the ranch was able to harvest \$2,000.00 worth of forage value instead of \$2,000.00 worth of smoke and still procure a good burn. Another factor of significance was that the chosen method greatly reduced the hazard.

The entire project was managed and financed by the Clemmie Gill Cattle Company.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH

Dateline: Louisville,
Ky.

"Detective John Burk switched on the radio in his cruiser yesterday and -- his gas tank blew up.

Burk was burned slightly on the face, but the blast broke a rear window of the cruiser, buckled the trunk, blew a hole in the gas tank and knocked Burk's hat out of the window. 'I thought I'd been dinamited', said Burk.

'A spark from his radio transmitter apparently ignited gas fumes,' police said."

J. F. Rosar
Associate Ranger

FROM DISTRICT I (Just received in today's mail)

When Vedat Suer, visiting forester from Turkey was touring District I to further his knowledge of California fire suppression equipment and techniques, he dropped a few interesting items on events in Turkish forestry circles.

One of the chief sources of man-caused fires is credited to hill people who illegally cut trees at night and saw them into lumber. They often build fires to keep warm and to illuminate their operation and leave without extinguishing them.

Walnut trees are not planted in Turkey because of the belief that when the stem attains the size of the planter's neck, he will choke to death.

A few years ago a forest fire burned an estimated one-half million acres.

When the government foresters hire woodsmen for a harvesting project, the men are paid an advance salary to enable them to purchase necessary supplies and equipment to get outfitted for the job.

On the Healey fire in Humboldt County in early September, burning conditions were so explosive at one time that a medium size Douglas fir was twisted out of the ground, roots and all, and disappeared upward into the smoke. This is not a tall tale - three or four open-mouthed fire fighters witnessed the event.

Paul B. Furbush

DISTRICT VI

We've had to rehang our thermometers in lower positions throughout the District in order to give more room for the mercury to rise. The old column hit 112 three times and 115 once in Riverside during early September for new records. We heard similar tales from all over the state so we withheld our tears so as to avoid raising the very low humidities to uncomfortable levels. On Thursday,

September 1st, we got off to an early start for the Labor Day weekend and by Friday evening, with another major added to the 7,000 acre Lake Wohlford Fire and with serious conditions in Los Angeles County we asked for Out-of-District help. It was generously supplied and was definitely a factor in our taking on four more fires in the same county (San Diego) and getting them all within lines by Labor Day, Monday morning in 112 degree heat. Our thanks to all who labored with us. Our apologies to Districts III, IV, and V for having gotten an early start over them that "black" weekend.

Foreman Bill Downing of San Bernardino County, never one to shirk a fire line duty, gave more than normally expected recently. Bill was wielding the ax on a tree when the law of averages caught up with him. Result, the largest digit of his left foot was cleanly severed. Our sympathy goes to Bill as the accident will keep him hobbling for quite some time. Here's hoping for a speedy recovery.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

It is with deep concern that we report the serious illness of our Assistant Deputy Eugene "Gene" Bertsch. Gene is at present in the Riverside Community Hospital suffering from coronary occlusion. The trouble, centering in the heart, showed its first symptoms on the Lake Wohlford Fire and culminated a week later here in his office with first light seizures, then severe seizures that evening, Tuesday, September 13. At this writing on September 16 Gene is still shown on the critical list and it will be several days yet before it is known whether he will pull through.

IT'S A PROVEN FACT

Recently I read an article entitled, "How to Beat the Heat." The facts I state here were proven by the Army Quartermaster Research and Development Division. This article kind of throws me off base because it states facts almost opposite from what I was taught about heat. The first thing to learn about getting along with heat is not to eat too lightly. FOOD. Don't listen to people who tell you that you can work all day long in the heat on just a few lettuce leaves. It's all right to eat a little less fat because fat produces heat, but you should eat a good solid diet with plenty of meat and potatoes. You burn up more energy working in the heat than in the cold.

ALCOHOL: Three bottles of beer will keep a man appreciably hotter for two days. Alcohol and heat just don't mix. (That's what the article says). You have 70 pints of fluid in your body and one or two pints of something cold won't make that 70 pints cool off.

SALT TABLETS: Salt tablets are a waste of time because your body will sweat out just so much salt then the sweat gets less and less salty. Your body keeps the salt it needs. The only good effect salt tablets have is to make you drink a little more water. But they're also likely to make you slightly sick to your stomach.

CLOTHING: The chief way your body cools itself is by your blood taking your body heat up to the skin. Then you sweat. The sweat evaporates and cools your skin, cooling the blood at the same time. You've got to get lots of air on your skin to pick up the heat and the sweat. You should wear loose clothing. Loose clothing flaps when you move, and keeps the air circulating. You shouldn't

wear belts or neck ties. (How about that, administrative?). You shouldn't even wear underwear. (Oh, those poor office girls). Your legs have 30% of your skin surface; bottle them up in heavy trousers and you'll be much hotter. For the same reason it's best not to use gloves when you're working in the heat. Your hands alone have 6% of your skin surface. The best material is cotton. As open a weave as is practical. Nylon and rayon are not so good. Natural fibers wick. That means they spread sweat evenly for better evaporation. Synthetics don't wick well, and they are usually woven too closely.

BOOTS: Wear thick soled boots, not oiled. Ground temperatures may go 40 degrees above air temperature. You can pick up a lot of heat through your feet.

CHAPPED LIPS: Keep licking your lips and they won't get chapped in the heat.

WATER: (This is what got me most) Drink all the water you can hold. The more you drink the better you'll feel, and it won't hurt you. The average man working in the heat sweats 7 quarts of sweat a day. You've got to drink water or you stop sweating enough. And when you stop sweating, you're on the edge of a heat stroke.

HATS: The best hat for the heat is a light cotton hat of porous material.

WEIGHT: You can gain weight working in the heat. The body trims off fat in the heat, but builds up muscle, which is heavier. This is good; if the bloodstream isn't so heavily insulated by fat, you can cool down faster. However, the fat man feels cooler because he is better insulated, but internally he is hotter. He can't take the heat as well as a thin man. The thin man feels hotter, but internally he is cooler. Fat men and all women are more subject to heat strokes. (Remember that, Baldy.) Women have about 75% more fat than the average man.

CARRY WEIGHT: Walking with weights over rough country in hot weather is the equivalent of fast mountain climbing. It's classed with the toughest of physical exertions. A weight of 20 pounds or less makes little difference in energy cost but you pay a terrific price in fatigue for every pound over 20 you try to carry.

AGE: When a man over 40 starts doing heavy work in the heat, he is asking for serious trouble.

COLOR: Black and white are equally cool in the heat.

SUN: Put a man in the sun and another in the shade with the same temperature, humidity, and wind and the man in the sun will suffer triple the heat stress that the man in the shade suffers.

TIP: The best single heat tip is to relax. When you worry about the heat, small muscles tense, and the activity actually makes you hotter. Maybe you can put some of these facts to good use. I know we should do something here in Southern California. How about that, Naples? Proj. Foreman Naples from Iron Mine CDC asked me why we don't give Southern California back to the Indians. We tried but the Indians didn't want it back.

Ed Brown, Proj. Foreman
Rainbow CDC

FROM DISTRICT VI DATED OCTOBER 11

We are very happy to report our Assistant Deputy Eugene Bertsch is well out of the critical stage of his coronary occlusion heart trouble. However, he is only just taking his first steps within his hospital room after four weeks there - so the road ahead is still a long one.

Mrs. C. A. Brown, wife of our Rainbow Camp Supervisor, is also on the improving list at the hospital after a serious operation.

Thirty-two of our Oak Glen Camp inmates recently learned what a "Campaign Fire" really is. They hiked six miles from the end of the road, crossing Deep Creek Canyon and up Deer Mountain for initial attack on a San Bernardino National Forest Fire. There they stayed for 29 hours as the U. S. Forest Service unsuccessfully tried to get chow to them. First, an airplane failed to locate them and drop food just before dark, then at daybreak a mule train got lost, then another one was turned back by a fire blowup. Finally, just before dark of the second day, a plane drop was successful and Oak Glen's decreasing waist line was reinforced again.

Doug Glenn, Dispatcher

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

With the first cold winds of October, we find the sands of time are running out on the 1955 fire season. A check of the season's records thus far shows an increase in fire incidence in Riverside County, but the boys are holding their own on acreage loss. Santana weather may bring in big fires, but we rely on luck and past efficiency shown by all suppression crew units to prevent large acreage losses.

Now with the advent of fall and the hunting seasons, there comes a familiar look at the eyes of local enthusiasts. Furtive checks of weather forecasts are frequently taken and you can hear the rustle of calendar pages as dates are counted and listed. You can hear the patter of feet into the Ranger's office as these hopefuls each try to put the bite on him for a few days' vacation. Over this enthusiasm hangs the pall of dread of a "Major Fire" and corresponding cancellation of days off, as has occurred on early opening days in the past. Personnel from throughout the state are welcome in County Headquarters here for small talk, but be prepared to swap, sell, buy, and tell those endearing lies about your favorite hunting spots. A word of caution, however; we don't want any more individuals from the District Office coming in to ridicule us "small bore" lads by showing off a brand new Magnum shotgun.

Recent deliveries from the stork have been accepted by the following Forestry members: Mr. and Mrs. Marlin B. Boucher, a daughter, Marlina; Mr. and Mrs. John J. McCurnin of Pedley, a daughter; Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Hallam, a daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. John Sanchez, a son. It looks as though fire fighters will be a little scarce in 1973.

Raymond H. Banks,
Associate State Forest Ranger

RIVERSIDE COUNTY DESERT DISTRICT

Recent months have brought a few news items from the "Shifting Sands" Desert District of this county. Driver Neil Graf and family moved into the newly completed residence at the Thermal Fire Control Station, but by the time they were comfortably settled Driver Graf was transferred to San Bernardino County. Fire fighter Ray Ritchey was promoted to TAU driver and sent to the desert to replace Driver Graf.

The Desert is enjoying quite a building boom. A residence is now in progress for the Ripley Station at Blythe, and the office at the Indio Station has been enlarged. During the next few months a new station will be started at Oasis. A garage has been built at the Desert Hot Springs Station to accommodate another fire truck which has been acquired by the volunteers there.

Last month a few of the "Desert Rats" took to the ocean to try their skill at angling for Albacore, among them being Assistant Ranger Mel Miller, Foreman Andy Smith of the Cathedral City Station, Driver Neil Graf of the Thermal Station, and Driver Tom Stein of the Indio Station. A total of 11 Albacore were caught.

A few words about recent vacations: Driver Dave Raymond and his family tried their luck on the Kern River, but we didn't see the proof. Assistant Ranger Miller and family went to Northern California and then on to Oregon to try their luck, but still no proof. Driver Bill Justis and his wife spent their vacation at cool Newport Beach. Driver Gene Summers of the Indio Station is now on vacation in the Sacramento River Valley---perhaps he will bring back the proof.

Foreman George Herrick has taken over the Palm Desert Station, having come from the Perris area. He replaces Bill Archer, former driver who has left the Division for work elsewhere. Another newcomer to the Desert is Driver Dick Wilkins from the Merced area, who replaced Driver Jim Herron who went to the Beaumont Station.

Dove season has opened here with a big bang. Driver Henry "Abe" Able went out the first morning and bagged a limit; however, he no sooner got his limit than he broke his gun. So for the next couple of weeks Abe will be looking down the gunsmith's neck!

Foreman W. S. Lord is planning to leave the ranks of Bachelor sometime in October. We all wish him luck on this new venture.

Tom Stein & Dave Raymond
Forest Fire Truck Drivers

C.D.C. ON FIRES

A total of 290,980 man hours on 208 fire calls have been provided by Honor Camp and Institutional inmates during this fire season.

Man hours broken down by Institutions read:

Folsom	70,203
San Quentin	87,219
Soledad	58,459

Man hours broken down by Institutions read: (Cont'd.)

San Luis Obispo	2,411
Chino	55,593
Tehachapi Branch	17,095

This summary includes both California Division of Forestry and U. S. Forest Service fires, and was provided by the Department of Corrections.

SAFETY NEWS

How is the Safety Program coming along in your unit?

Here are some interesting facts about Safety in the Division of Forestry.

1. Workmen's Compensation and medical benefits cost the state over \$9,000 per month or more than \$100,000 last year. These figures are just for the Division of Forestry.
2. In all probability these costs will be even higher this year.
1,232 DAYS WERE LOST DUE TO DISABLING INJURIES IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

Important as these statistics are in showing us where we stand safety-wise, the pain grief and difficulties for the employees and their families which are the aftermath of many of these accidents is even more distressing.

Many units have plans for safety training during the coming winter. As an aid, typical "cases" of accidents that have occurred will be prepared in Sacramento and supplied to the Districts. These have proven to be a good "kick-off" for group discussions on SAFETY.

If your District or unit has developed a Safety Program or approach which has proven effective, how about notifying the Training Section via channels so that the details can be passed on for use in other places? Some of these will be discussed in this section in future issues of the News Letter.

Leon Lefebvre
Training Officer

from CF

*State of
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KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

FOREST FIRE DISPATCHING: Rain did not fall in sufficient quantity during October to end the fire season in Northern California, but fire risks remained low except in the south coastal area below the Tehachapi Mountains. Fire risks were still dangerously high in that area with the Santa Ana wind season approaching. Several fires were experienced in the south coastal area. Men and equipment were sent to assist the San Bernardino National Forest in the suppression of two fires in that area.

RESEARCH: A pilot study was initiated for the San Bernardino National Forest to inventory the degree of protection being provided to private lands within the forest boundaries. This study should provide a pattern to be applied with certain modifications to other National Forest areas.

INTER-AGENCY FIRE CONTROL CO-ORDINATION: The Fire Suppression Co-ordinator spent the month of November in gathering data for the plan study of protection for the San Bernardino National Forest. This data was assembled through visits to District VI headquarters in Riverside and 18 selected fire control stations in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

The report on power brushing saws was completed and distributed to the field this month.

Fire statistics for the August 27 - September 13 period were compiled, checked, and combined with U. S. Forest Service data and distributed to the field.

Vegetative survey by ranger units was completed for Districts I and II. It is now being checked and prepared for distribution to the field.

AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT: Pilot Model #6, a light four wheel drive forest fire truck has been completed, road tested, and is ready for review by field personnel,

A late model crawler tractor, the Eimco Model 105 was made available by the corporation for field testing and appraisal. This model is considered comparable to a D - 7 Caterpillar or TD - 18 International, but with considerable difference in design.

FOREST PRACTICE ACT: By the end of October more timber operators had registered for 1955 with the State Forester than in any previous year. Already 1,689 operators have registered in comparison with a total of 1,599 for 1954.

A subcommittee of the South Sierra Pine Forest District met in Riverside on October 4 to study and discuss proposed forest practice rules more applicable to Southern California conditions. This was the third of a series of meetings held by the committee on this subject.

STATE FORESTS: Blister rust control work on the Mountain Home State Forest has been completed for the current season. A total of 67,000 gooseberry bushes were grubbed this season on some 320 acres of the 1,604 acre Bear Creek blister rust control unit. Where currant and gooseberry bushes, the alternate host for blister rust, are eliminated from sugar pine areas, the disease is controlled because the rust cannot spread from pine to pine.

NURSERY: During the month of October an inspection was made by the Blister Rust Control Unit of the U. S. Forest Service of the sugar pine planting stock at the Magalia District Nursery. No evidence of visible blister rust was found. The gooseberry (Ribes) bushes around the camp area were checked with similar results. A project to protect sugar pine seedlings growing at the nursery from Blister rust through the eradication of gooseberry bushes was started last summer. The work was accomplished by the use of inmate labor from the Magalia Forestry Work Camp under the supervision of Division personnel. This work is being done to protect sugar pine seedlings at the Magalia Nursery from blister rust. Recent changes in State and National plant quarantine regulations now make it possible to ship sugar pine planting stock from a blister rust protected nursery in an infected area to a non-infected area for the purpose of reforestation on private land. State Forest nurseries can now sell sugar pine planting stock to private landowners for reforestation purposes south of the northern boundary of Mariposa County. Previously only shipments were permitted for planting State or Federal lands and by special permit.

REFORESTATION: A brush control project on the Paradise Demonstration area, located on the Paradise Forest Fire Station site, was carried out during the month of October by Division personnel. The area was logged and planted two years ago. Sprouting brush is now competing seriously with the planted trees. The project is being undertaken by spraying the basal stems of the competing brush species with a chemical herbicide. A similar project is contemplated for the Forest Ranch plantation located at the Forest Ranch Forest Fire Station in Butte County.

SMALL WOODLANDS COUNCIL: The Small Woodlands Council, an organization of public and private foresters of which the Division is a member, visited the University of California Whitaker Forest in Fresno County and Mountain Home State Forest in Tulare County during the month. Cut-over plots in Whitaker Forest, and the poisoning of undesirable trees, as well as planting and seeding experiments, were observed at Mountain Home State Forest. A short business meeting was held in Visalia at which the problem of growing Christmas trees and new guide sheets for small woodland owners were discussed.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Warm, dry weather during October afforded some ranchers in the north coastal area an opportunity to complete successful controlled burns in areas of chamise and timber slash. Elsewhere in the State controlled burning activity has been essentially concluded for the season.

The 40-acre cleared plot on the Backbone Range Study in Shasta County was seeded. The seed was covered, using a "Backbone drag" consisting of manzanita brush attached to a telephone pole. Preparations were made for building cross fences so the areas receiving different treatments can be grazed separately. A 3-acre plot was prepared and seeded to legumes and perennial range grasses using a new heavy duty range drill.

Work on the Spring Dell Range Study in San Benito County was reviewed and plans made for the next season's operations.

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

FOREST FIRE DISPATCHING: Fire weather remained warm until the storm of November 12 and 13 when all districts received rain and in some areas snow fell as low as 1,000 feet. During this period only two large fires occurred. One fire

burned 600 acres of brush, grass, and woodland seven miles northeast of Clear Lake Oaks in Lake County. The other fire burned approximately one hundred seventy acres of brush and grass lands protected by the Division of Forestry and approximately six hundred fifty acres protected by the U. S. Forest Service. This fire occurred seven miles northeast of Morro Bay in San Luis Obispo County. On November 15 the State Forester declared the fire season closed in the northern part of the state.

EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

The Arcadia Equipment Development Center of the U. S. Forest Service started an extensive test of tractor canopies in Redding this month. The Division of Forestry co-operated in this test by observing and recording data.

The intent is to test three of the canopies most common to the Pacific Coast area for: (1) resistance to falling snags, (2) resistance to a falling 24" diameter breast high live tree, and (3) resistance to rolling the tractor over both sideways and end over end.

An old D-7 Caterpillar tractor was surveyed for testing purposes. One of the new canopies was installed and the entire unit instrumented with an oscillograph.

The snag falling test was accomplished by dropping a top section of a pine tree (30' long by 9" at the butt, 100' vertically from the Shasta Dam high line.)

Two pine trees 25" to 26" diameter breast high were felled across the tractor canopy at a distance of 30' from the stump.

Visual observation of these tests proved that an operator would have been safe although the recorded strain was not calibrated at the time.

The roll-over tests were postponed until spring because of weather conditions at which time the tests of all three canopies will be completed.

STATE FORESTS: K. B. McGuire and Son was awarded the Hare Creek timber sale on Jackson State Forest when sealed bids were opened in Fort Bragg on November 29. The sale involves the cutting and removal of some 1,060,000 board feet of residual old growth redwood and Douglas fir timber from an old cut-over area of approximately 40 acres before June 30, 1956. The timber is being sold to the highest bidder at the following stumpage rates: Douglas fir and redwood \$26.20 per thousand board feet and white fir and hemlock at \$4.00 per thousand board feet. This sale should bring some \$26,351 in revenue to the State.

FOREST PRACTICE: The forest practice committee of the Redwood Forest District met in Scotia on November 30 to review the inspection program during the past year, to briefly discuss the stream clearance problem, and to review changes made in California forest and fire laws by the last session of the State Legislature.

NURSERY: During the past month the selling season for trees began for the State Forest Nursery. Trees were lifted at the three district nurseries (Parlin Fork, Mendocino County, Magalia, Butte County, Ben Lomond, Santa Cruz County) and are ready for packaging. Approximately 1,800,000 coniferous trees for reforestation and forest products purposes are available for sale. The

species Douglas fir, red fir, coast redwood, and Monterey pine sold very fast and will not be available again until next season. Only a small amount of white fir planting stock is available at this time. The species remaining in large supply are Jeffrey, ponderosa, and sugar pine. Hardwood planting stock, both potted and bare root for public and private planting, is also available.

INSECT CONTROL: The California Forest Pest Control Action Council met in Sacramento ^{7/28} to review forest insect and disease conditions in California. The forest pest condition, as revealed by co-operative detection surveys during 1955, were reported by the Division of Forest Insect Research of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. It was reported that forest insect activity is considered to be relatively low for the third consecutive year with a few exceptions.

The Douglas fir beetle on the North Coast, which has maintained an aggressive infestation for the past two years, has this year shown some trend downward. Lodgepole needle miner is still in the increase in Yosemite National Park. Defoliation of fir by Osler's Tussock moth has occurred in Tuolumne County in the Crane Meadows area and near Dorrington. Bark beetle damage in Southern California has continued to show improvement. It was also reported that as an aftermath of the serious fires which occurred this year, a large buildup of bark-beetle population can be expected to occur. For the first time a report was made on pathological and physiological damage. As no previous inventory had been made, comparisons with former years were made only in a general way.

The Division was involved in two projects during the 1954-55 season. They were in the Arrowhead Crestline area of San Bernardino County and the San Jacinto Mountain area in Riverside County. There were \$4,837.71 of State Pest Control funds expended to treat 418 infested trees. The Forest Service was contracted to do the work on 24,187 acres of private lands amongst the San Bernardino National Forest lands in conjunction with control work on federal lands.

The project contemplated at this time for this fiscal year are continuation of the San Jacinto and Arrowhead Crestline projects involving \$6,600 of State Pest Control Funds. Control work on the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (San Diego County) is also being contemplated. At this time an estimate of costs and arrangements for work are being developed.

SERVICE FORESTRY: A training school was held during November at the Division of Forestry Mt. Danaher Station for assistant rangers working in the Central Sierra District. The purpose of the training was to familiarize these men and bring them up-to-date with responsibilities of the Division to provide technical advice and assistance to small owners regarding forest management. By such training as this assistant rangers can become better equipped to advise small woodland owners on some forestry matters of a more routine nature. This, in effect, relieves the constant increasing demands made for services of the limited number of service foresters employed by the Division.

SOIL-VEGETATION SURVEY: Early in November a discussion was held between the County Administrator of Sonoma County and representatives of the State Forester's Office concerning the feasibility of securing a Soil-Vegetation Survey of Sonoma County at an early date. The county supervisors, local soil conservation districts, and other groups in the county recently have shown much interest in having the survey done.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Favorable burning conditions during the early part of November permitted ranchers in San Luis Obispo and Santa Clara Counties to complete burns which were unsuccessful earlier this year. Good results were obtained in burning out large "islands" and other areas where the original fire had not made good runs.

During the last three seasons the cattle that have grazed on our Spring Dell Range Study in San Benito County have been weighed when they were put in the pasture and again when taken off to determine weight gains and meat production per acre. The results of these grazing trials have been as follows:

	Pounds of Meat per Acre		
	1953	1954	1955
Plot A - Brush burned standing; reburned 3 years later to control sprouts; no seeding	16.4	18.1	22.7
Plot B - Same treatment as Plot A, except seeded at 5 pounds per acre	18.5	21.9	26.8
Plot C - Same treatment as Plot A, except seeded at 10 pounds per acre	19.7	30.7	30.5
Plot D - Brush railed down and dried before burning; chemicals used for sprout control; seeded at 10 pounds per acre	32.0	50.2	49.7

The Spring Dell Range Study is a co-operative project between the Division of Forestry and the Agricultural Extension Service (Farm Advisor) of San Benito County.

The season's work on the Bressi Range Study in San Diego County was reviewed by the participating agencies: Division of Forestry and Extension Service. Plans made for next year include grazing management, some additional fertilizer trials, and ground application of organic herbicides to control brush regrowth.

A number of ranchers in the foothills of the San Joaquin Valley are planning winter burning of brush on their range lands. Most of the Range Improvement Associations in this area are holding meetings to review last summer's operations and plan for next season.

ENGINEERING: Temporary winter quarters for the Beaver Creek CDC crew has now been completed at Altaville Fire Control Station in Calaveras County.

PAUL R. KEVIN RETIRES

Climaxing a career of thirty-one years in public forestry, Paul Kevin retired November 30 to accept a position in private forestry with the firm of Hammond, Jensen and Wallen, Consulting Foresters, of Oakland, California.

Paul's footprints, sample plots and cruiser tags are scattered throughout Region Five. Starting out of Alturas in 1924, his early timber cruising assignments took him through most of the Modoc, Plumas, Stanislaus, and Sierra Forests. He served as Ranger and Timber Staff Officer on the Lassen, Plumas, and Stanislaus Forests before coming to the Regional Office in 1934. Paul's work in San Francisco in the Divisions of Timber Management and State and Private Forestry since then has

taken him into all phases of California forestry from Redwood management on the North Coast to pioneering in the silvical treatment of Southern California pine stands, working in the field with foresters of the State Division of Forestry and timber landowners.

News Item - San Francisco, California, November 30, 1955

SOME COMMON FALLACIES ABOUT WOOD

By: Forest Products Laboratory, Forest Service, U.S.D.A., Report No. 1167

In the course of its work the Forest Products Laboratory continues to encounter various false ideas about wood, many of which lead to unnecessary trouble, expense, or dissatisfaction in the use of wood. Some common misconceptions of this kind are the following:

Fallacy 1. --That all wood in the course of time "naturally" decays as a result of age.

Wood does not necessarily decay with age at all. Decay is the result of one thing only, and that is the attack of wood-destroying fungi. In the cases mentioned the wood had been kept free of fungus attack in one of two ways: it had been kept dry, as in weatherproof structures or in a dry climate, or it had been kept thoroughly and permanently saturated. A fungus is a plant. If the wood is too dry for it to grow and spread, decay does not occur. If the wood is thoroughly saturated, the fungus is "drowned out." The range of activity of fungi lies between 20 per cent moisture content of the wood and a "soaking wet" condition in which all air is excluded.

Fallacy 2. ---That some woods never decay, regardless of exposure and service conditions.

Both this fallacy and the first one are answered by the fact that no woods decay when fully protected from fungi, and that any wood will decay when exposed to fungus attack that is severe enough and continued long enough.

The conditions that bring about decay of wood are, briefly, dampness and mild to warm weather. If you have a house, porch, or shed built over damp, poorly drained ground, with the foundations bricked or boarded in, look out for decay. Sills of untreated wood resting directly on damp ground are sure to rot. Likewise untreated posts and poles set in the ground are exposed to ideal conditions for fungus attack, and their service will usually be terminated by decay near the ground line, no matter what wood is used.

Fallacy 3. --That there is such a thing as "dry rot" of wood.

Much has been written or said about "dry rot" in buildings. Any brown, crumbly rot is so called, but the term is a misnomer. No fungus can grow without water. Wood is the food for the wood-destroying fungi, but they cannot use that food unless it contains at least 20 per cent of water (based on the weight of the over-dry wood).

Fallacy 4. --That wood used in construction is under all conditions more dangerous than steel in case of fire.

It is true that wood when exposed to fire temperatures will burn and be converted to charcoal, whereas steel does not burn under similar exposure conditions. But wood, when used in heavy timber construction, has a tremendous advantage over unprotected steel. Where thick beams constitute the supporting members of a structure, the outside surfaces, on exposure to severe fire conditions, will become charred, while a substantial core of wood, because of its low heat conductivity, remains at low temperature, uncharred and intact, and retains most of its strength for some time. Steel, under the same fire exposure conditions, because of its good heat conduction, will quickly become heated throughout and lose much of its rigidity and load bearing capacity and thus permit collapse of a structure sooner than timbers of the same initial strength. For structural purposes, the working strength of unprotected wrought iron and steel as reported in Johnson's Materials of Construction, must be regarded as regularly diminishing while the temperature increases, the rate of diminution being about 4 per cent per 100° F. increase in temperature.

It is for this reason that steel members are commonly required to be enclosed in concrete or some other protective material.

Fallacy 5. ---That a fence post will give better service if set in the ground "upside down."

A tradition seems to exist in some quarters that setting posts bottom end up (opposite the position of growth) makes them last longer. There is neither evidence nor theoretical basis to support this idea, so far as we are aware.

Fallacy 6. ---That oak, hickory, or other heavy hardwood, has a higher fuel value than pine.

This may be true as between a cord of hickory and a cord of pine, as the cord of hickory weighs more; but pound for pound the pine gives off more heat.

Fallacy 7. ---That the sap "rises" in a tree in the spring and "goes down" in the late fall.

The difference about sap is that it is moving or circulating actively in the spring and summer. It is always "up" and never "down." By actual weighing, logs are heavier in the winter than in spring, showing that they have more sap in the inactive season. If the sap were "down", no tree could freeze in winter as they often do, with a loud "crack."

Fallacy 8. ---That trees exposed to storms and rough weather all their lives form stronger and better wood than sheltered trees.

This idea is mere poetic license, as it never affects the selection of wood in manufacture and actual use. Trees exposed to extra severe conditions are apt to be deformed, gnarly, twisted, stunted, and fit mostly for firewood. Trees grown under normal forest conditions make the best lumber because they are straight and regular in grain. Piece for piece, their wood is as strong if not stronger than that grown under the wildest conditions of exposure.

Fallacy 9. ---That wood of a given species grown in one state or region is superior to that grown in another state or region.

Examples are "Michigan maple" or "Vermont maple", northern vs. southern ash, etc.

Tests of more than 600,000 specimens at the Forest Products Laboratory prove that a tree's location inside or outside certain imaginary geographical lines has nothing at all to do with the strength of its wood.

Fallacy 10. ---That limbs rise higher from the ground as the tree grows older.

This phenomenon would obviously require the stretching of the interior wood where the limb is attached, and trees simply do not grow that way. A new layer of wood is put on every year over the tree as it stands, limbs and all. What goes on this year stays put. If there is a limb 10 feet from the ground now, that is where it will be next year, unless it breaks off or is cut off.

Fallacy 11. ---That an expert can tell the age of a piece of wood by looking at it.

Except for the "aging" of wood in color, which may be purely artificial, the expert can determine the age of wood only by counting the rings in the stump when the tree is cut.

Fallacy 12. ---That some woods "breed" bedbugs and cockroaches; meaning, perhaps, that some woods favor the development of such vermin within their cracks and crannies.

The insects in question appear supremely indifferent to the kind of wood of which a house is built; their interest lies in other directions. To blame poor housekeeping on one or another species of wood of which the house is built is grossly unfair to Mother Nature.

Fallacy 13. ---That lumber on the market today is not what it used to be in the "good old days."

Popular opinion to the contrary notwithstanding, timber cut today is as good as Paul Bunyan ever laid ax to. Lumber is now machined better, graded better, and seasoned better than formerly. In addition, a wider selection of species and items is available.

Fallacy 14. ---That wood exposed to very low temperatures is "brittle as glass" and has little strength.

Some people have had the idea that when wood is frozen or exposed to very low temperatures, as in arctic regions, it is seriously damaged and loses most of its strength. There have been reports that a piece of wood dropped on the frozen ground is likely to shatter into small pieces, much as though it were made of glass. Careful investigation has failed to produce any real evidence of such occurrences.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GEORGE T. GERLINGER

Trees and people he loved stand in tribute to the late George T. Gerlinger of Oregon. His name has been given to a state experimental forest of 1,000 acres at Black Rock, Oregon. The 40-year-old stand will yield data on thinning practices in Douglas fir management. Shown at dedication of memorial marker are Mrs. Gerlinger and three grandchildren, Jean, John, and Anne Kirkwood. Member of the Oregon Forestry Board 30 years, Mr. Gerlinger was president of

National Lumber Manufacturers Association and a founder of American Forest Products Industries.

NOTE: Louis Gerlinger, Fire Prevention Officer in District III is a nephew of the late George T. Gerlinger and the wife of the State Controller, Robert C. Kirkwood, is a daughter.

Forestry Digest - October, 1955

TWO FORESTRY EMPLOYEES WIN CASH AWARDS FOR GOOD IDEAS

At its regular October meeting, the State Merit Award Board recommended payment of a \$30 award to Willie Ola Robinson, Intermediate Typist Clerk, Redding, for suggesting that nails or wire be inserted into the edges of redwood signs to prevent animals from chewing and damaging the signs and further prevent cattle from rubbing against them. The Division reports the idea will be placed in effect in certain localities where damage is probable and estimates an annual savings of approximately \$300 will result.

A \$20 award was paid Charles W. Rowland, State Fire Foreman, Sterling City, for suggesting that brake and clutch pedals be covered with non-skid materials. Although his idea for covering brake and clutch pedals was not considered feasible after many field trials, it was modified to cover other areas on fire trucks which are normally subject to men standing or climbing. The use of non-skid materials has been placed into effect in other areas on the fire trucks and have proven very satisfactory. As a result, most of the new trucks are being equipped with this material.

Newton E. Wise, Secretary
State Merit Award Board

OBITUARIES

We have just received word that Mr. Francis E. Rankin passed away on December 9, 1955. He had been a forest fire truck driver and a forestry equipment operator in Butte County from June of 1946 until he suffered a heart attack in May of 1949. He finally received a permanent disability rating from the State Compensation Fund and separated from state service in December of 1950.

Mr. O. E. Fowler passed away on November 28, 1955. He retired as a Deputy State Forester in June of 1950, after having been in charge of the fiscal section of the Sacramento office for many years.

Mr. Fowler first went to work for this Division in June of 1920 as a District Ranger. He was appointed as state forest inspector in January of 1922 and a state forest supervisor in July of 1931. On May 1, 1932, he was appointed as state district forester, which title was later change to deputy state forester.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

OVERHEARD BY THE DISTRICT II REPORTER

Herb Kaufner and Tobe Arvola were waiting for dawn to break over the half-frozen Lower Klamath marsh where they were ensconced in a duck blind.

Herb had brought along a thermos of hot milk to keep himself warm, and Tobe had brought along a thermos of brandy. Both thermoses were empty when the sun came up and a lone duck flew overhead. Herb raised his gun, fired, and missed. Tobe raised his gun, fired, and watched the duck fall.

"Nice Shot", commented Herb.

"Shucks", replied Tobe modestly, "when you shoot at a flock like that, you can't hardly miss hitting at least one".

Shasta Sam

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Luther Gordon retired on October 31, 1955, from his position of forestry equipment engineer in Sacramento.

On November 1, Forest Technician Jean Sindel was transferred from the District I headquarters office to Mendocino County where he will have charge of the Jackson State Forest.

Robert Rappleye has been appointed as an assistant forest technician assigned to the Jackson State Forest. He was formerly a trainee in District IV and resigned in September of 1953 to accept a position as farm forester in North Carolina. He recently returned to California and was appointed in District I last August. Sorry we neglected to report this in the last News Letter.

Don Reath, Assistant Architectural Draftsman in the Sacramento Office, has transferred to the Division of Architecture.

Ralph L. Smith has been promoted from assistant ranger to associate state forest ranger in Shasta County.

In September William E. Brown was appointed as forest fire dispatcher in Madera County.

DISTRICT III

RESCUE OPERATIONS: On Tuesday, October 18th at about 6:30 P.M., we received a request from the Placer County Sheriff's Office for assistance in the search for a 76 year old man who was lost in the Foresthill area.

At about 7:00 P.M. we dispatched two (16) man crews with Foremen Dougherty, Prower, Ferris, and Maneely accompanied by Lt. Thomas F. Rogers of the Department of Corrections.

At 11:00 P.M. the man was located by a Forest Service crew at the bottom of a canyon. He was unhurt but exhausted. At this time one Iron Mine crew was released to return to camp with Foremen Brower and Ferris. The other Iron Mine crew was employed to carry the man out of the canyon. This was accomplished by 2:30 A.M. and the crew was returned to Iron Mine Camp.

James G. Dougherty
Work Project Foreman

TIMBER BALANCE for the first time in U. S. history cheers lumber, paper companies.

These users of forest products have long borne the brunt of conservationists' complaints about "disappearing" timber reserves. A just-released 15-volume study by the U. S. Forest Service shows the country now grows more timber than is being removed by cutting or by destruction through fire, pests, and disease. Net annual overall timber growth is 14.2 billion cubic feet, compared to an annual cut-and-mortality of 10.7 billion cubic feet.

Much credit goes to big timber outfits like Weyerhaeuser, U. S. Plywood, St. Regis Paper, International Paper, and others. They sponsor "tree farms" and employ rigid conservation and re-seeding practices.

(Paper-from-wood production soars. But per capita use of wood for furniture and construction is down 75% from 1905.)

Copied from "The Wall Street Journal"
October 27, 1955

PONDEROSA WAY

Years ago in an Assistant Ranger's examination the question was asked, whether the Ponderosa Way was a shade type fire break, or mineral earth fire break, a roadway, etc?

It was years before I found the whole of the answer, and then after checking with Ray Clar, who in a sense grew up with the Ponderosa Way. He has this to say about it:

"The Ponderosa Way started on the Pitt River in Shasta County. There was a west arm of the Way started but I don't know how far along the Trinity front it was carried. The main Ponderosa Way ran south from the Pitt River and actually ended at the south end of the ponderosa pine timber growth on the slopes of Breckenridge Mountain at the end of the Sierra proper in Kern County. However, the State crews go no farther south than the South Fork of the Kaweah River in Tulare County.

"The Ponderosa Way was intended (and was) a mineral earth fire break at the lower edge of the coniferous timber. A roadway ran as near to it as possible - sometimes in the break."

Nevada County has, thanks to the Iron Mine C.D.C. plus the equipment operators of our County, several miles of the Ponderosa Way which exist in as good condition as the original Way in 1932. We also have several miles that exist in better condition than was ever expected due to co-operation with the

Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company. A portion of the Way runs into the Wolf Mountain Lookout and some several hundred feet from the Lookout the P. T. & T. maintain a micro-wave station which it is necessary to visit almost daily. They have provided gravel on a roadway built to exacting grade by Hugh Maples, Project Foreman, and his crew under the supervision of Bill Merle, Project Supervisor, at Iron Mine.

This roadway is capable of fairly fast speeds and while in its present shape exists as a 100 foot mineral earth fire break. Forest Technician, "Charley" Carlson has experiments in progress on it with the thought in mind to kill the sprouting brush by spraying either as winter or early spring maintenance to be carried out in conjunction with the regular road work done yearly.

A good example of the famous Ponderosa Way in the same or better condition it was, some 23 years ago, can be found 7 miles outside of Grass Valley.

Incidentally, the Way was used on two occasions this year as a fire trail to stop what could have been a dangerous fire.

TULARE COUNTY

Considerable effort is being expended by the Division of Forestry personnel in Tulare County on programs in connection with Fire Prevention Week. Up to the present time, approximately one-half of the schools in the County have been visited, and it is hoped by the end of Fire Prevention Week that 100% of the schools will have been contacted. Also, during the past few weeks, a number of programs have been presented before other organizations and children's groups.

County of Tulare is in the process of purchasing three new fire trucks. The chassis which have already been contracted for will be 1955 GMC Model 554-A. The delivery date on the new chassis should be approximately November 15th and we anticipate that specifications will be completed and ready for submittal to the various bidders at that time.

With the co-operation of the Tulare County Sheriff's office, a number of suspects have been picked up on various incendiary fires, and are in the process of being tried at this time. Several of the suspects are believed to have been involved in several series of incendiary fires over a period of two to three years, while others are involved in only one particular case. Two juveniles were recently remanded to Camp Owen as a result of their participation of incendiary fires.

It is with sadness that we report the death of Don W. Riggs, Foreman, at our Exeter fire station. Don was critically injured Saturday, September 24, when the motorcycle he was riding collided with a pickup truck, as the truck was turning into a private driveway. Don passed away the afternoon of the 24th. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Riggs and the children.

Carroll Wolf, Fire Truck Driver, at our Camp Nelson fire station, recently received serious but not critical injuries when the sports car he was driving went out of control and overturned north of Tulare on the 99 Freeway. Carroll is confined to the Tulare District Hospital, and will presumably be off work approximately six to eight weeks. He suffered a few broken bones, shock, and head injuries.

The number of fires in Tulare County is down considerably over last year and the number of major fires, both forest and structural, have been reduced considerably over last year. It is our hope that fire prevention efforts are paying off in causing these reductions.

R. C. Chaplin
Forest Fire Dispatcher

It is without regret we see our fire season coming to a close. The latter part of August and the month of September gave all of our "fire fighters" a real workout, enough to last us for sometime to come.

The Schedule B (hillbillies) have sent a few foremen and drivers to Schedule A (Flatlanders) to fill vacancies caused by illness and the passing away of Don Riggs, Foreman.

The Schedule B men may be looking forward to a fire-free winter, but not so the Schedule A men. Winter to them is just a change from fighting fire in the sun, to fire fighting in the rain.

During Fire Prevention Week Smokey the Talking Bear and Assistant Ranger Phil Crosby went to school together. Phil took Smokey to each elementary school in which he had a prevention program. Mr. Crosby's talk on fire prevention and the motion pictures shown were well received, but the highlight of the program was when Smokey made his fire prevention speech.

Young people bore easily, but the Talking Bear helped hold every child's interest from beginning to end. Phil said, "It isn't every day you can see and hear a talking bear."

R. L. Voss
Assistant Ranger

KINGS COUNTY

Truck Driver Bill Hudson recently became the proud father of a son, the first for the Hudsons.

Bill Parks, truck driver at the Hanford Station is the envy of our deer hunters as he was one of the lucky ones to go on the special deer hunt and the only one who brought back a buck, a forked horn. Bill, however, had rather a bad experience with the horse he was using and came back with evidence to show what horses hoofs can do.

J. T. Couste
Assistant State Forest Ranger

The Kings County Fire Station at Armona was completed October 25th and is now occupied.

Mr. R. E. Troutner, County Supervisor for 16 years and father of the Kings County Forestry Department passed away suddenly. It was Mr. Troutner who first felt the need for rural fire protection in Kings County and worked out the present agreement with the Division of Forestry. His interest and efforts in the department will not be forgotten with his passing. We feel the loss of a

close friend.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

MADERA COUNTY

During the siege of fires in the latter part of August and the first part of September, Madera County was partially stripped to help Fresno County and Southern California. This gave us a good opportunity to further sell fire prevention and do a little public relations work with the people on ranches in the hills. We called on them to keep their jeeps and spray rigs ready and to let the wives know where they would be if we called for help on a local fire. The control burners were asked to alert their organization. Our local ranchers always seem to be on fires in the foothill and grain areas, but here was an opportunity to make them feel more a part of their community and closer to the Division of Forestry. We feel this pays off big - first, in prevention, and secondly, in suppression. The local people appear to feel this way also as is borne out by the following letter to Deputy Metcalf from one of the members of the Madera County Board of Supervisors:

"During the recent fire emergencies, as you know Madera County was pretty well strapped for fighting equipment. I would like to point the good work that was done by Ranger Stephens of Coarsegold in organizing us local people there to take care of an emergency if such should have arisen.

"In my own case, I was assigned to drive one of Mr. O'Neal's jeeps with fire fighting equipment, and I understand he had Enos Shauback, Jr., ready to respond with his bulldozer and various other neighbors were contacted there that I know of.

"Such work by your personnel I think should be commended, and I, as a member of the governing board of Madera County, wish to do so.

"I am thankful that we did not have to go into action, but if we had, I am sure that a wild fire would have been taken care of.

Yours truly,
s/ Cassuis C. Clark"

G. O. Phibbs
State Forest Ranger

FROM DISTRICT IV HEADQUARTERS

Former Assistant State Forest Ranger Oliver J. Denny passed away on Monday, December 5, 1955, following a heart attack suffered while visiting a brother-in-law in Fresno.

Mr. Denny had a long and colorful career with the California Division of Forestry since he joined our organization in 1933, working in the foothill area of Madera County until his transfer to the Coalinga area in 1940. At this time he became Assistant State Forest Ranger for the Westside Fire Protection District which is operated under co-operative agreement.

Oliver was born in Gordonville, Tennessee, and came to California in 1904. He lived in the foothill area of Madera County until 1940, and from that time until his disability retirement in 1951 in the Coalinga area of western Fresno County.

We of District IV missed Oliver's good work and sincere interest in his job, when it was necessary for him to take disability retirement. Now we join his many friends in expressing our sincere sympathy to his widow Inez, and family, at his untimely passing.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Well, here we are again at the end of another fire season. There was quite a bit of activity going on during the past summer in Santa Clara County. On checking with Dispatcher Garza, he advises that we had about the same number of fires as last fire season, but a lot more acreage burned. This was due to two large fires we had in the San Antone area - the Venable fire with approximately 450 acres burned, and the Fletscher fire with approximately 9,100 acres burned.

A large number of personnel changes have also taken place. George Ryder, our Headquarters foreman for two seasons, and starting his third, was promoted to Forestry Trainee and transferred to District III the latter part of June. His replacement, Foreman Warren Shaw, also was promoted to Trainee and transferred to District IV in August. And then we got Foreman Carl Nicolson to replace Shaw - he's still with us!

Jim Rasmussen, foreman at the Smith Creek Station the last few years, resigned to accept the position of Assistant County Fire Marshal for Santa Clara County. Dick Cronin has been assigned to take over Rasmussen's duties as foreman of Smith Creek Station and residence.

Forestry Equipment Operator Eugene Tarp accepted a promotion in Monterey County as Forest Fire Dispatcher the latter part of August.

And then there was the retirement of our warehouse foreman, George D. Curtis, after 25 years of service with the Division of Forestry. His kind and smiling face will be missed by many (as has already been experienced). There was many a time when there was a question or things just weren't going quite well, and Mr. Curtis' kind words of advice were always there to set us straight. On October 28, 1955, approximately 80 guests were present at a dinner party held at the Almaden Golf Course Club to help Mr. Curtis celebrate this great milestone in his life. His fellow employees presented him with a beautiful TV set, and for Mrs. Curtis her first white orchid. Thanks to our Master of Ceremony, Gervise F. Nash (now working out of Sacramento Office) and Chairman Bill Reed, the party was a great success.

We have also had two transfers into the County - Edward Brown, Foreman, and Fred Kelsea, Driver, both from District IV.

As far as construction is concerned, we are happy to report that the new Coyote Fire Control Station, located east of Gilroy near the Coyote Dam,

has now been completed. Painting of the Copernicus Peak Lookout and the Pacheco Peak Lookout has also been accomplished.

And so, here we are, patiently waiting for the layoff list to come out, so we can start on our winter program, although for many it won't be too soon. That's all for now.

Dorothy Magioncalda
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

RANGER SCHERMAN RECEIVES 25 YEAR SERVICE AWARD

We in Orange County are all proud of our boss, Ranger Joe Scherman, who recently received a pin and certificate for having served 25 years with the State of California. Ranger Scherman has served these 25 years as State Forest Ranger in the County of Orange. He was the first State Forest Ranger in Orange County, and is responsible for the State Forestry organization as it now exists in this County. He has witnessed the organization grow from the 1-man, which was he, back in 1930 with no equipment at all, to its present strength of manpower and equipment. Previous to his State service, Ranger Scherman was employed with the U. S. Forest Service.

The presentation was made at the recent opening of our District Headquarters in Riverside, and was made by Mr. Willard Smith, who was a former Orange County Supervisor and Fire Committeeman. We are all proud of our boss who has devoted these 25 years to State service and for the accomplishments which he has made during this period of time for the California Division of Forestry and for rural fire protection in Orange County.

Orange Forestry Gang

DISTRICT VI HEADQUARTERS

District VI, never one to speak lightly of its fires, is still on the ragged edge of fire season as of December 9th. Yes, we've had five rains to date but the precipitation was only what was left over after the other five districts got through with the clouds. Add them all together and a kindergarten could count the inches with two thumbs and have most of one left over. Today, our Zone 1 and 2 area is clear, the air 72-20, and the winds North 15-20.

The fire season could be classed as normal, a little over in occurrence and a little under in acreage and campaigns. However, the San Bernardino National Forest kept us in business for awhile. Other than there, we only had one real campaign (8,000 acres - September 1st) plus several one and two thousand acre toughies.

Our Assistant Deputy, Eugene Bertsch, left the hospital in mid-November and is showing "Ike like" steady improvement. However, had two quick strikes and no bells for a count when he went to the hospital on September 13th, so it will be some time yet before he enters the ring again at District Headquarters.

We've had some new income tax exemptions arrive here-abouts. One was Sandra Jean Mace, who made a first time grandfather of our Deputy, James K. Mace, and a first-time mother and father of Barbara and Eugene Mace. Another was

Terry Ann Cain, first daughter of Frances and Foreman-Trainee Fred Cain. The above events occurred November 27th and December 3rd.

From out of the date and grapefruit groves of Riverside County's once barren Coachella Valley comes two famous Date Festival camels. Tied to the hump of each were notes of important news. One, the "so different" county fair will begin February 17th. The other, that Foreman Bill "Marriage Is Not For Me" Lord, fast approaching his thirties, slipped a gear last November and is now in second instead of high. Mrs. Lord is the former Mary Lou Long of Indio. Our congratulations to Bill Lord, and, to Mary Lou, just our best wishes.

Doug Glenn
District Dispatcher

RAINBOW CDC CAMP

This is an introduction to Rainbow CDC Camp, located in an oak-covered valley on the Riverside - San Diego County line just east of highway 395. Supervising our camp is Mr. C. A. Brown, (Cab). I'm sure Cab is known state wide. He has been around a long time. Our Camp Foremen are John R. Peters, Willard N. Pefley, Warren L. Jones, Joe Murphy, Paul Lobo, and yours truly Ed Brown.

I feel we are very lucky to have such a good bunch of fellows all in one camp. Cab and the rest of the fellows are all well experienced men.

Our projects are road maintenance, phone line maintenance, hazard reduction, station construction, and numerous other range management and forest practice projects. Our in-camp projects are vehicle paint and body shop and hose coupling shop.

This camp was very fortunate to be able to participate in Operation Firestop at which we were able to meet a lot of fine fellows from all over the state.

We wish to take this opportunity now to say, Hello! We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

E. R. Brown
Project Foreman

ORANGE COUNTY

Today the flags at our Forestry Stations are flying at half-mast in memorial to Orval Durham who passed away yesterday, December 5, 1955. Foreman Durham started working with our organization in June, 1939, and continued in this capacity until his passing. Orval, through all his years, was a hard untiring worker, and a man who understood fires and how to suppress them. All of his fellow employees were his true friends which has been demonstrated and proven during his recent illness. He leaves behind his wife, Yione; two daughters, Vionne and Darleene; and a son - Barthie. This is truly a great loss to his family, our organization, and his many friends.

J. A. Scherman
State Forest Ranger

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND -

STATE FORESTER

ADMINISTRATIVE
—DISTRICTS—

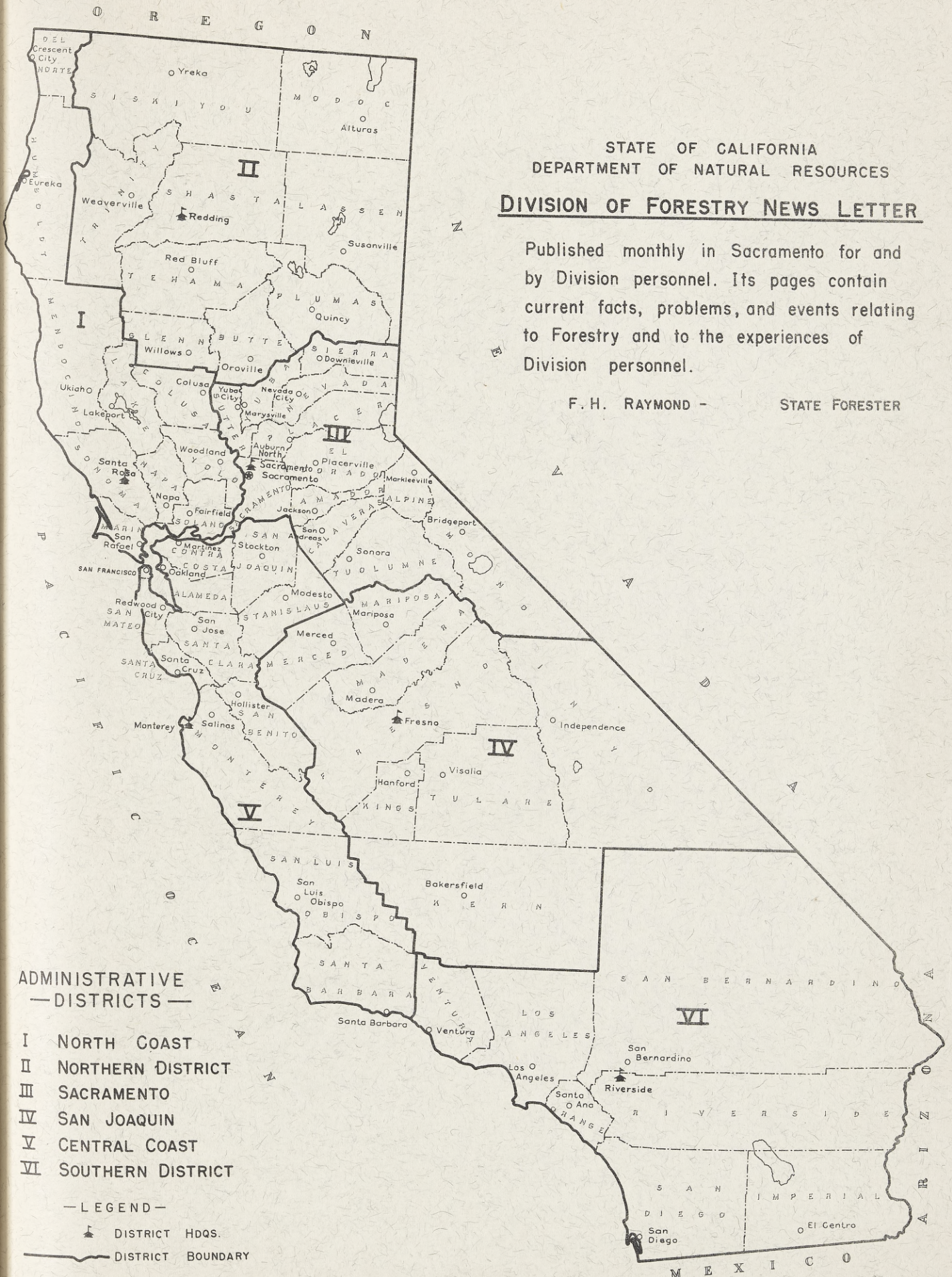
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- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

—LEGEND—



DISTRICT HDQS.

DISTRICT BOUNDARY

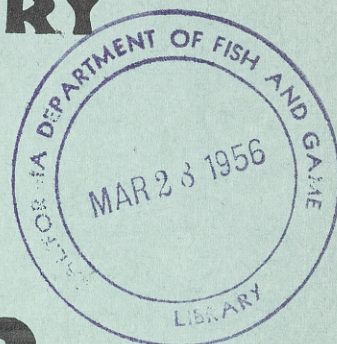


State of ^(B)California

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER



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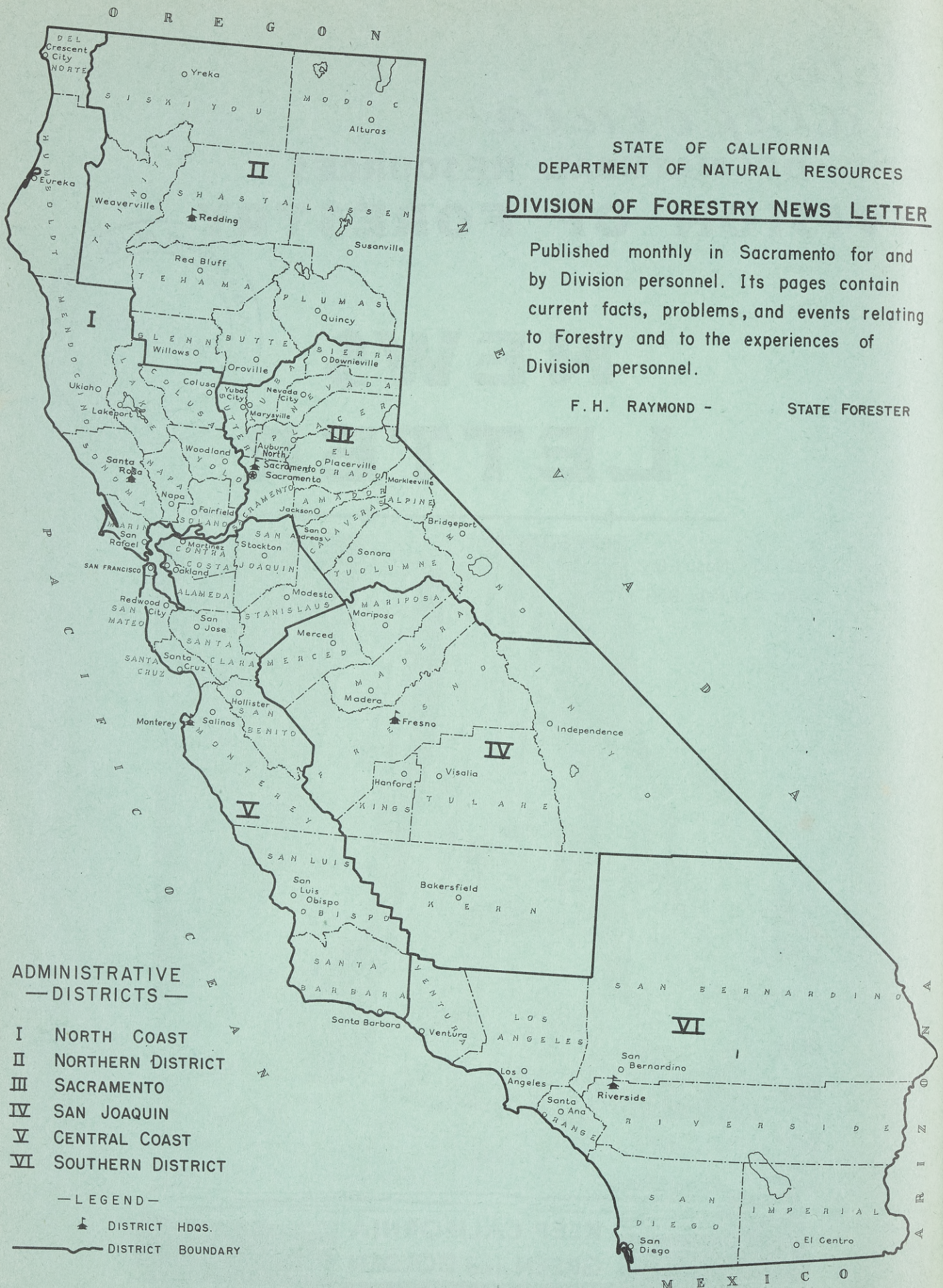
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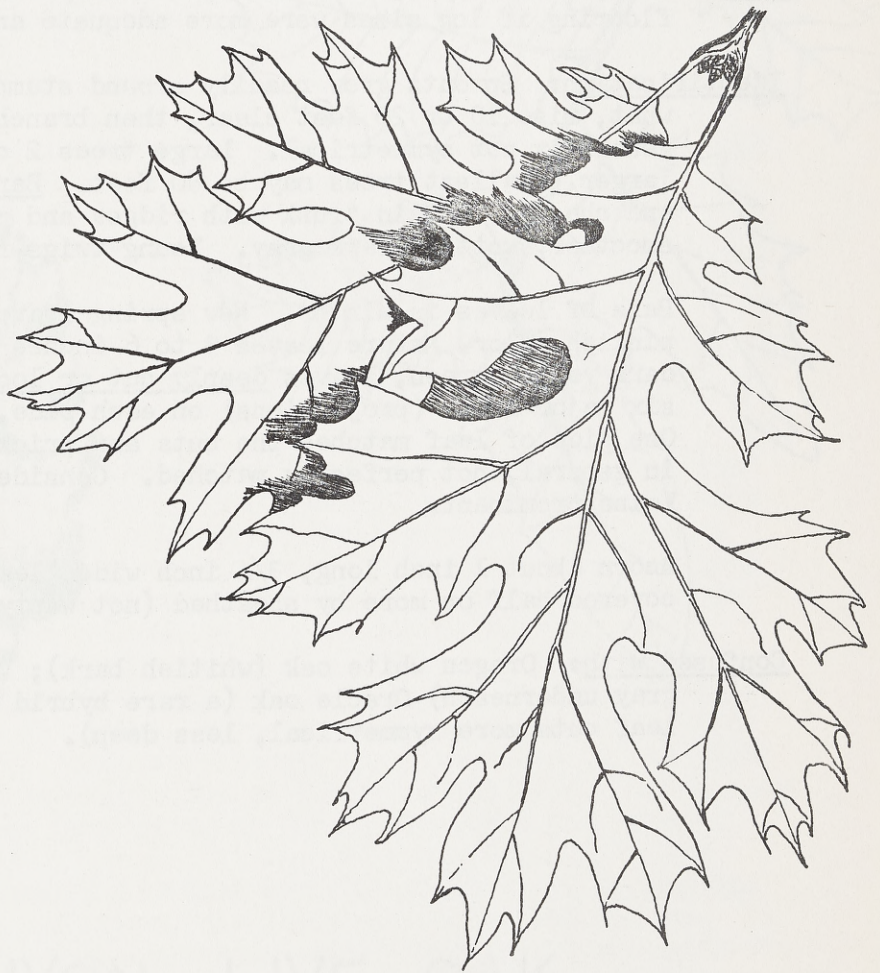
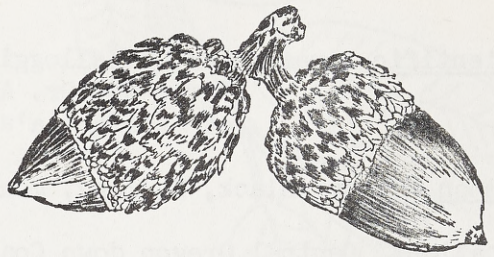
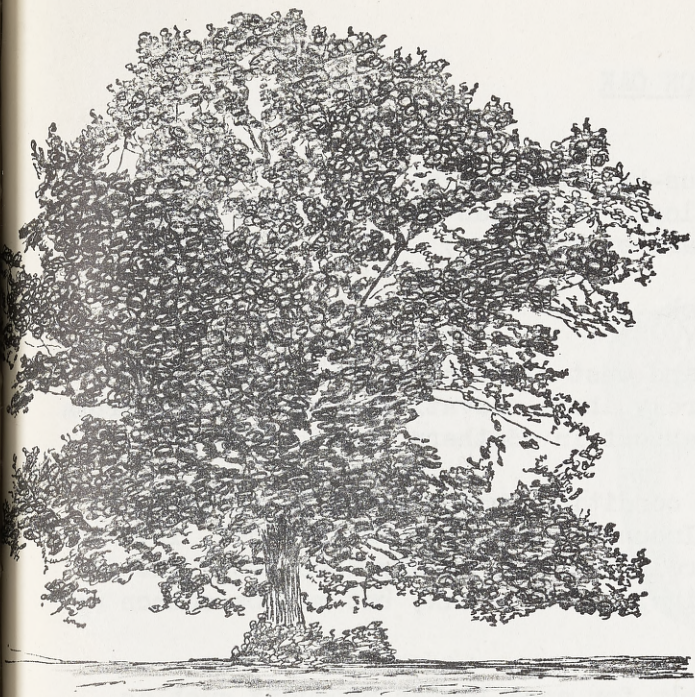
— DISTRICT BOUNDARY



T.V. PROGRAM

Richfield Oil Company is presently sponsoring the new T.V. series, "The Mayor of the Town", starring Thomas Mitchell. Although the primary purpose of this family-type program is entertainment, its secondary aim is to inform the people of California of the importance of conservation of natural resources. Richfield accomplishes this secondary objective through a short interview each week between a well-known person in the conservation field and Mr. Thomas Mitchell. Director of Natural Resources, DeWitt Nelson, and Board of Forestry Chairman, W. S. Rosecrans, are among those persons interviewed. The program is being carried by the following fourteen T.V. stations in California with the first of the series starting about the first of February:

San Luis Obispo	KVEC-TV	6	Tuesday	8:30 p.m.
Chico	KHSL-TV	12	Wednesday	7:00 p.m.
Los Angeles	KTTV	11	Wednesday	9:30 p.m.
Sacramento	KCRA-TV	3	Thursday	7:00 p.m.
San Francisco	KGO-TV	7	Thursday	10:00 p.m.
San Jose	KNTV	11	Friday	9:00 p.m.
Eureka	KIEM-TV	3	Saturday	8:00 p.m.
Salinas	KSBW-TV	8	Saturday	8:00 p.m.
Fresno	KMJ-TV	24	Sunday	6:30 p.m.
Santa Barbara	KEY-T	3	Sunday	6:30 p.m.
Bakersfield	KERO-TV	10	Monday	9:00 p.m.
San Diego	KFSD-TV	10	Monday	7:00 p.m.
Stockton	KOVR	13	Monday	8:30 p.m.
Yuma	KIVA-TV	11	Monday	9:30 p.m.



CALIFORNIA BLACK OAK

CALIFORNIA BLACK OAK

Scientific Name: Quercus Kelloggii (Kwer-cus-kel-log-ee-eye)
(Named for Dr. Albert Kellogg, physician and botanist, member
of California's first Board of Forestry)

Common Names: Black, Kellogg, mountain black.

Location: Central Oregon down Coast Range and west slope of Sierra almost to Mexico. Not near the sea and rarely above elevation common to ponderosa pine; 1000 to 4000 feet mainly, except in southern range, 7000 ft.

Associate Species: Seems to require growth conditions which would be suitable to Douglas fir or ponderosa pine. Incense cedar, canyon live oak, interior live oak, sometimes tan oak, laurel, madrone; rarely down among the dry climate species such as digger pine, and blue oak, but may be common up into white fir, sugar pine zone.

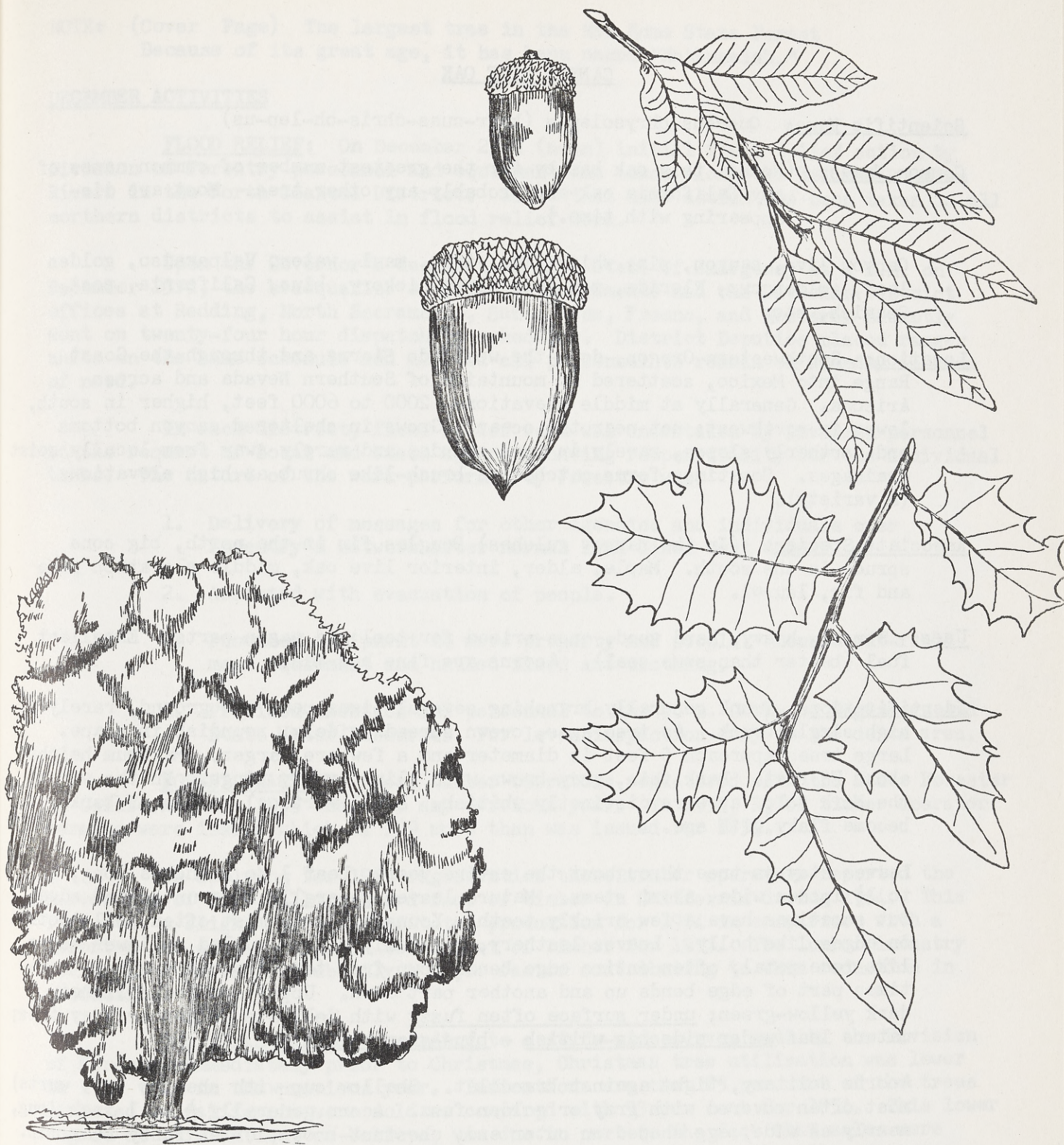
Uses: Fuel; possibly would be used profitably for some lumber products such as flooring if log sizes were more adequate and available.

Identification: Sprouts grow readily around stumps. Trunks generally lean somewhat, rise 10 or 20 feet clear, then branch heavily. Crowns spread widely, generally not symmetrical. Large trees 2 or 3 feet in diameter, rarely larger. Tallest trees may be 80 feet. Bark dark gray, almost black, rough and checked on main trunk with ridges and plates, bark on upper limbs smoother, mottled dark gray. Young twigs reddish brown, fuzzy.

Bare of leaves in winter. New spring leaves sparkle with pale green and pinkish color. Mature leaves 3 to 6 inches long, 2 to 4 inches wide; polished dark yellow-green, leaves deeply cut or looped on each side forming four to six major lobes (projections) on each side, each with several spiny tips. One side of leaf matches the cuts and prickle-ends of the other side only in general, not perfectly matched. Considerable variation in leaf patterns. Veins prominent.

Acorn about 1 inch long, 3/4 inch wide, lemon-shaped at end, chestnut-brown, covered half or more by sheathed (not warty) acorn cup.

Confused with: Oregon white oak (whitish bark); Valley oak (whitish bark, leaves gray underneath) Oracle oak (a rare hybrid of California black oak, with leaf cuts more symmetrical, less deep).



CANYON LIVE OAK

CANYON LIVE OAK

Scientific Name: *Quercus chrysolepis* (kwer-cuss-chris-oh-lep-us)

Common Names: (Note: this oak has by far the greatest number of common names of any California oak and probably any other tree. Most are disappearing with time.)

Canyon live, canyon, pin, white live, iron, maul, water, Valparaiso, golden leaf, golden cup, Florida, mountain live, hickory, blue, California, post, Spanish, etc.

Location: Southwestern Oregon, down the westside Sierra and through the Coast Range into Mexico, scattered in mountains of Southern Nevada and across Arizona. Generally at middle elevations, 2000 to 6000 feet, higher in south, lower in northwest; not near the ocean. Grows in sheltered canyon bottoms and northerly slopes, rarely in pure stands, and rarely away from locally moist drainages. Sometimes forms patches of brush-like shrub at high elevations (a variety).

Associate Species: (In the narrow gulches) Douglas fir in the north, big cone spruce in the south. Maple, alder, interior live oak, middle elevation pine and fir, laurel.

Uses: Strong, heavy, hard wood, once prized for tool and wagon parts. Excellent fuel (better than some coal). Acorns are fine hog mast.

Identification: Trunk generally branching several times near the ground, rarely a high single trunk. As tree ages, crown spreads widely, roundish in shape. Large trees approach 5 feet in diameter and a few are larger. Maximum height about 75 feet. Bark thin, gray-brown with slight rusty tinge. In the woods the bark color appears distinctly whitish. Small vertical ridges of bark become flaky with age.

Leaves stay on tree throughout the entire year. Leaf 1 to 4 inches long, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, short stems. Mature leaves generally have untoothed edge, but sometimes have a few prickly teeth. Younger leaves most often well-toothed on edges like holly. Leaves leathery, generally always curled at lower edges like rose petal, often entire edge bends down from top into canoe-shape, sometimes part of edge bends up and another part down. Upper surface polished, dark yellow-green; under surface often fuzzy with delicate golden or grey fuzz; mature leaf under side has whitish - blue-grey color.

Acorns solitary, tight against branchlet. Shallow cup with sheaths (not warts) most often covered with gray or golden fuzz. Acorn generally $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch long, nearly as wide, egg shaped on outer end, chestnut-brown, often fuzzy near tip.

Confused with: Possibly tan oak or tree chinquapin because of fuzzy, silvery, leaf under-surface. Interior live oak and blue oak are closest neighbors and may grow intermingled. First has yellow-green leaf underside. Blue oak has similar bark, but shape of leaf is different and leaf upper surface is blue gray.

NOTE: (Cover Page) The largest tree in the Mt. Home State Forest Because of its great age, it has been named "Methuselah."

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

FLOOD RELIEF: On December 23rd (noon) initial flood relief action by Division of Forestry personnel and equipment was taken along the Eel and Russian Rivers in the North Coastal District. Since that date action has been taken in all northern districts to assist in flood relief work.

Upon the Governor's declaration of a State of Emergency at 4 P.M. on December 23rd, the headquarter's office in Sacramento and the Division District offices at Redding, North Sacramento, Santa Rosa, Fresno, and Monterey promptly went on twenty-four hour dispatching schedules. District Deputies placed ranger units on the same schedule and alerted all personnel to remain on standby in case of need.

In each district, flood relief work was undertaken by Division personnel at the request of local and state agencies having responsibility for the individual tasks. The nature of the work performed by Forestry was:

1. Delivery of messages for other agencies and individuals over Forestry's network after normal land lines went down.
2. Assisted with evacuation of people.
3. Provided equipment to move property and people. Loaned out-field mess equipment and hauled flood and clothing.
4. Provided machines and personnel to the U. S. Corps of Engineers and State Water Resources, for levee inspection duty in the delta area.

FOREST PRACTICE: More timber operators registered with the State Forester in California for 1955 than for any pervious year. In 1955, 1,768 timber operator permits were issued which is 169 more than was issued for 1954.

In applying for 1955 registration these timber operators reported the harvesting of 5.60 billion board feet of timber in California during 1954. This indicates a slight reduction of total production for 1954 in comparison with a reported cut of 5.99 billion board feet of timber for 1953. The lumber industry strike in 1954 was undoubtedly a major factor contributing to this reduction in production.

CHRISTMAS TREES: According to a state-wide survey made by the Division of Forestry immediately prior to Christmas, Christmas tree utilization was lower in 1955 than in the previous year. Indications are that 85 per cent of the trees marketed in California were sold as compared with 93 per cent for 1954. This lower degree of utilization, we believe, was due in part to the fact that sales were hampered by flood conditions in some areas. In the San Joaquin valley it was estimated that 3 to 5 per cent more trees would have been sold in that area if flood conditions had not been so severe the last two days prior to Christmas. In some areas the lots were under water during this period. Another factor which contributed to lower utilization this last Christmas^{was} the thousands of trees shipped into Southern California from northwestern states at the last minute, so to speak, to relieve a shortage in the southland. Huge shipments, as late as three days

before Christmas, were still being shipped into California.

Christmas tree imports by truck into California during 1955 amounted to 1,219,129 trees. This is the largest number ever shipped into California by truck and is nearly 475,000 more than the previously high in 1953. Douglas fir was the leading species (65%) with white fir (24%), miscellaneous species (7%), and red fir (4%), following in that order. The Division of Forestry compiled this information from data collected by the California Department of Agriculture border quarantine stations. The Dorris station reported the largest number of trees of the sixteen border stations reporting. Shipments came from many of the western states and British Columbia. The data collected by the Department of Agriculture will be further analyzed by the Extension Forester of the University of California along with data collected for rail shipments.

STATE FORESTS: During the month of December, five thousand trees were planted on the Jackson State Forest on an area of five acres. The species planted were Douglas fir, Monterey and Jeffrey pine, and coast redwood. Inmate labor from the Parlin Fork Honor Camp was used under the supervision of technical personnel of the Jackson State Forest.

SOIL-VEGETATION SURVEY: Publication of a new map, "Upland Soils of Lake County", was announced by the State Forester on January 4, 1956. The map is 30 by 40 inches in size and is printed in color. Thirty-seven soil series of the wildlands of Lake County, many of them having been identified and described for the first time during field work in this county. The soil types have been combined into three broad groups, each indicated by a different color. One group is of soils normally covered with coniferous timber, which are generally suitable for commercial timber production. A second color indicates a group of soils usually associated with grass and oak vegetation, which are suitable for range forage production. The third group shows soils usually covered with chaparral and other brush that are generally suitable for wild life and watershed purposes. This soils map is part of an inventory of the vegetative cover and underlying soils of wildland areas that the State of California has been conducting since 1947. It is a result of work of the Soil-Vegetation Survey, a co-operative project between the California Division of Forestry, the California Forest and Range Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service, and the University of California; it is financed by appropriations of the State Legislature to the Division of Forestry.

ENGINEERING: Plans have now been completed for the shop and equipment building at Howard Forest in Mendocino County. Construction will start about March 1, 1956.

The construction of the road at the Vallecito C.D.C. Camp in Calaveras County is progressing satisfactorily and plans are being prepared for construction of the buildings.

The Los Tablos Forest Fire Station in San Luis Obispo County has been completed. The buildings consist of a combination barracks and messhall, one equipment storage shelter, and one gas pump shelter.

JANUARY ACTIVITIES

FIRE PREVENTION: Planned meetings were held in January with the executive committee of the California Fire Prevention Committee for the 1956 fire prevention

educational program.

FOREST AND RANGE MANAGEMENT: Reforestation: Some 52,000 trees were planted this season on the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park under a joint reforestation project by the Division of Forestry for planting the Conejos burn of 1951. Sugar pine, Jeffrey pine, white fir, and incense cedar trees raised in Division nurseries from seed collected in Southern California and the southern Sierras were planted by inmate labor from nearby Honor Camps under the supervision of Forestry and Park personnel. This season's planting completed the second year of planting on the three-year co-operative reforestation program.

During the past month the Division planted 5,600 trees on the Pine Hill Lookout site in El Dorado County involving 13 acres. The species planted were ponderosa pine, white fir, Douglas fir, and Sierra redwood. The area is being used for experimental and demonstrational purposes for the planting of trees in the Central Sierra region.

Service Forestry: Under the service forestry program, the Division provides advice and in-the-woods assistance to the small woodland owners on forest management problems, such as which trees to cut, reforestation, products that may be derived from one's timber, simple inventories, and management plans. During 1955, the seven service foresters employed by the Division received 1,366 requests for services. Some 776 woodland owners involving 84,707 acres were given advice and forest management assistance. One hundred seventy-four wood products operators also were advised. The service foresters were able to persuade 226 landowners to follow improved cutting practices on land and to plant 473 acres. Landowners, who receive advice and technical assistance from the Division, harvested 68,825,000 board feet of forest products for a total value of \$567,392. The service foresters referred 29 woodland owners involving 10,028 acres to consulting foresters during the year.

ENGINEERING: Plans have been approved for the construction of the bridge across West Chamberlain Creek on Jackson State Forest in Mendocino County.

The Assistant Ranger's residence at Smartsville Forest Fire Station in Yuba County has been completed.

FIRST STEAM SAWMILL

The first steam sawmill known to have operated in California was built in 1843 by a Captain Stephen Smith. Smith had been in San Francisco a couple of years earlier and observed lumber being imported from the Sandwich (Hawaiian) Islands. He apparently realized the business possibilities in sawing lumber locally. So he returned from the East with three boilers and an engine of unknown type, and also a 16-year-old Peruvian wife (Smith was 63).

When Smith began to build his mill one mile northwest of the later town of Bodega Corners, John Sutter sent John Bidwell down to order him off the land. Sutter claimed to have purchased the whole coast of Sonoma from the Russians. Smith stayed and shortly thereafter received an 8 square league grant from the Mexican government.

A well was dug under the mill to furnish water for the boilers. We also know that the heavy construction timbers came from Santa Cruz where they were either hewn, pit (whip) sawed by hand, or sawed by water or wind power. Smith's

first saw was called a "sash" or "Molly". The sash saw moved in vertical strokes like a whip saw with power attached. It was replaced in 1849 by a more efficient circular saw. Smith's mill was equipped to operate wheat grinding stones at the same time that logs were being sawed.

Redwood trees were cut immediately above the mill and the logs rolled to the mill. When all was ready, invitations were sent out far and near for the initial performance.

General Vallejo, the military commandante, came from Sonoma, along with vaqueros and every type of local resident. The mill ground flour and the saw ripped through the huge redwood logs. Everyone cheered. The flour was baked into bread immediately and "a beeve has been slaughtered, abundance of venison is at hand, and a sumptuous repast has been prepared, to which all are now invited to partake themselves."

Toasts and speeches were in order. Vallejo, being the honored guest, proclaimed that Yankee ingenuity would some day cause more steam engines to be found in the beautiful valleys of California than soldiers.

The mill was operated at the original site until 1850 and then moved farther into the woods (probably into the present Joy Woods). Eventually, Smith went into Mendocino County to log redwood. His Bodega lumber was hauled about five miles to Bodega Bay and from there shipped to other ports including the Sandwich Islands. The original mill was destroyed by fire in 1854. Possibly the well and foundation could yet be found where the first steam sawmill was operated in California in 1843.

C. R. Clar

CUPRESSUS SEMPERVIRENS OF SYRIA

"The Cupressus sempervirens of Syria is a valuable timber tree, still quite common in Palestine, and is doubtless the 'Cedar' of Bible times used in the building of Solomon's temple, and not the Cedar of Lebanon, as the latter is a notoriously poor timber tree."

- Excerpt from Third Biennial Report
State Board of Forestry, 1889

GIFT TO SCHOOL OF FORESTRY

The Regents of the University of California have accepted a gift from Mr. William S. Rosecrans to the School of Forestry to be used to establish the Rosecrans Fellowship in Forestry. The Fellowship is to be awarded to a graduate student for study at the University, with first consideration to be given to candidates with an interest in research in the field of wildland management in California. The first award is available for the academic year 1956-57 and is in the amount of \$1,800.

By way of comment, I might add that Mr. Rosecrans' very generous action will be highly effective in encouraging young men of ability to seek the further fundamental training needed to insure continued progress on the numerous research problems important to forestry in California. Because of strong recent demands for foresters in all lines of professional work, proportionately fewer

top notch foresters have been obtaining advanced academic training in recent years. The Rosecrans Fellowship in Forestry serves to re-emphasize the importance of research training and will both encourage and assist more foresters to broaden their fundamental education.

Henry J. Vaus, Dean
School of Forestry, U. of C.

A NOTE ON WOODS BURNING FROM FLORIDA

Louis Nieland grew up in the Sierra foothills of Butte County, California, but he has been Extension Forester with the University of Florida for many years, so he knows the problems of forest fire protection in both states.

The southern pine forest area has frequently been cited as one where "controlled" or "light" burning could be practiced as a fire prevention measure with little damage to the timber stand and some have advocated the use of this method as a fire prevention measure in California.

The following paragraphs from a recent letter about the serious fires of 1955 in both California and Florida are therefore of special interest:

"Was sorry to hear of the bad forest fires you suffered in California last year. I know from past experience how destructive fires are out there. Well, we, too, had one of our most disastrous forest fire seasons in Florida last year, and in the deep South, also. Some of them 60 to 80 thousand acre fires, with some pine stands almost completely destroyed. This year threatens to be even more dangerous, because we are in the fourth year of a dry cycle, and Florida has never, in my 45 years' recollection been so dry. No water in the swamps, and lake levels 8 ft. below normal.

"The fire problem in the pine lands of the deep South has not been solved, nor satisfactorily lessened. Many forest managers have been relying on so-called "controlled burning." But this approach has serious drawbacks. During dry years, such as during the past three, controlled or "light" burning cannot be practiced. Like California, such fires are too likely to get out of control. And, such years are the ones when we have the big fires. So, how useful is "controlled" burning. Another thing, it's an expensive procedure, costing up to 50 cents per acre. And, I never saw a "controlled burning" effort, no matter how carefully done, that didn't destroy at least 25 per cent of the necessary young reproduction.

"So, I'm sticking to my old recommendations of wide, improved pasture strips, 100 feet wide, located in strategic places, throughout our pine lands. These will pay for themselves in 3 or 4 years, through cattle sales, and, after that, fire protection, effective fire protection, will be afforded at a profit, instead of an annual expense. A few private concerns in south Georgia and Florida have adopted this method. They have, so far, never had a bad fire in their timberlands. The wide fire lanes keep fires from getting big. Big fires, fanned by strong March winds, just can't be stopped by men or machines in our type of country when the woods are tinder dry."

Woodbridge Metcalf
Extension Forester

NEW THINGS AT THE FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY

Ninety per cent of Forest Service funds appropriated to the Laboratory go to finding use for poor quality wood, waste material, and despised species. This is all a necessary aid to timber management. Our forests contain enormous quantities of each. The sooner this class of material can be weeded from our stands through harvesting and economical utilization, the sooner we can produce more and better stands of timber designed for the end use. It is not enough to grow volume of wood. It should be grown in such a manner as to give maximum utilization, when harvested, of the desired quality for the intended use. Important wood characteristics in forest planning are to grow trees with (1) low fiber angle (2) even proportion of spring and summer wood and (3) high specific gravity (density).

A circular head saw has been developed that planes the lumber as it comes from the head rig and thus save material lost by heavy planing.

A slab debarker is being studied that will make slabs available as pulpwood.

Uniformly grown trees (even ring spacing) make the best lumber. To get maximum benefit from pruning do the thinning often enough to get a constant rate of growth.

High density wood will yield more pulp than low density wood. In some places pulp wood is now sold by weight (ovendry weight), instead of by the cord. Specific gravity (density) increases with age, decreases with rapid growth and decreases with height in tree. Even distribution of spring and summer wood increases quality.

Painting is usually a high-cost item in building maintenance. Too frequently, mistakes are made with painting. The most common faults are too frequent painting, use of a different kind of paint than originally used, excessive additions of liquids to the paints and stingy applications of paints. The best of all around exterior paint is Titanium lead paint over a primer free of zinc oxide. A paint film of not over .005 of an inch thick, including the old paint, should be maintained. A thicker film will check. Repainting once in five or six years with two coats is usually often enough under normal conditions.

New glues have made it possible to do things with wood formerly unheard of. Laminated timbers, waterproof plywood and wood, paper and metal sandwich boards are founded on these new glue inventions. All three of these processes of modifying lumber are used in the construction of the all wood Navy Minesweeper. Panels overlayed with resin impregnated paper will permit the use of a low-grade lumber or veneer for interior finish where the surface is to be painted.

Particle board manufacturing is increasing and is a factor in utilization of mill waste. (Novaply is an example).

Research at the Laboratory on dry kilns continues to show that proper seasoning of lumber is a large factor in the good utilization of lumber. The most important unit a wood-working plant can have is a dry kiln.

The semi-chemical pulp process invented at the Laboratory is becoming a larger factor in hardwood pulp production each year. It has the advantage of

much higher yields of pulp than the older processes using the same raw material. Formerly the mixing of species for pulp was not done. As a result of research at the laboratory it is now commonplace to mix various species in the pulping processes. This has simplified the timber-sales program on the forests. Use of large volumes of water, air pollution and stream pollution still plague the industry. Based on the present trends pulp production will double by 1975. Enough fibreboard was produced in 1954 to make a strip 1 foot wide and extend around the world at the equator 350 times. Its principal use is paper boxes and not a girdle for the earth, however.

A method to test wood preservatives in a short time in the laboratory has been invented. This can be done in months instead of years. Formerly the tests were conducted in "Post Farms." The new test is done in the laboratory by inoculating the test wood with wood destroying fungi and in a few months the same results can be secured that takes many years in the field. No sapwood of any species can naturally resist decay. The outer heartwood of a tree is most resistant as are woods from the butt logs. Some classes of a species are more decay resistant than others. This may mean that resistance to decay can be controlled genetically. The simplest way to prevent damage to wood in the manufacturing process is to convert to the final form as soon as possible. Wood dried to 20 per cent moisture content or less will not decay as fungi exist on free water between the wood cells but not on water held within the wood cell walls.

The discovery that the angle of the fibrils making up the cell wall has a definite relationship to wood quality, namely its strength and shrinkage potentials has opened up new fields of research. It has been determined almost conclusively that the fibril angle is hereditary. It can, therefore, be controlled genetically. The angle is said to be low when it nearly parallels the long dimension of the wood fiber. Trees to be used in seed orchards are now examined to see if the fibril angle is low so that the future crop can be high-quality wood.

Altho the manufacture of sugar from wood is a practical process, sugar cane and beets are much more economical to process. We may not be eating weed trees and mill waste for some time to come.

The most important lesson learned at the Lab was that a wealth of information on making our national wood supply last longer and do a better job is available to the field for the asking. Most of the information is in published form. The information requested need not be for publication only.

An answer to a problem may be covered by several publications or may require a written report. The problem will be routed to the experts most qualified to provide the most accurate information. This is the service offered to the field by the Lab.

J. M. Buck
Stanley Stevenson
Timber Management
U.S. Forest Service, Region V

BLISTER RUST BUILD UP

As a result of disease surveys made during the 1955 season, several significant finds were made of heretofore unknown infections of blister rust.

The Tahoe crew sparked by Clinton Tripp found that blister rust is very common on sugar pine in the Downieville area. One of the most severe infections occurs along Empire Creek north of Downieville where about 2,400 infected sugar pines are present on 183 acres along the stream.

Reports from the Klamath the past few years told of heavy infection in the Marble Mountains wilderness area. Jim Kimmey of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, C. E. Johnson of the National Park Service, and Howard of the Blister Rust Control Unit surveyed rust occurrence and damage in the Marble Mountains. Infection is general on western white pine (*Pinus monticola*) and white bark pine (*P. albicaulis*) and in most areas is severe. Heavy damage is now taking place and losses will continue. Heavily infected limbs were observed in the tops of mature trees. The tops of many saplings and poles are beginning to die from blister rust and are breaking out. Many small trees up to 8 or 10 feet in height have been killed. These areas illustrate well the rapid and heavy losses that can occur in rust-hazardous sites when blister rust is uncontrolled.

Roy Bloomstrom
B.R.C.
U.S. Forest Service, Region V

DEWITT NELSON NOW PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

DeWitt Nelson, Director of the Department of Natural Resources, was elected President of the Society of American Foresters on December 3, 1955, by mail ballot of the members for the two-year term 1956-1957.

Mr. Nelson was vice president of the Society during the biennium 1954-1955. George A. Garratt of New Haven, Connecticut, Dean of the Yale University School of Forestry, was elected vice president of the Society.

Organized in 1900, the Society of American Foresters with headquarters in Washington, D.C. has a membership of almost 11,000 professional foresters practicing in the United States and Canada. Its governing body is the Council composed of the president, vice president, and nine additional members.

FORESTRY EMPLOYEE WINS \$20 AWARD

At the December meeting of the State Merit Award Board, a \$20 award was recommended for payment to Beatrice N. Reynolds, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, St. Helena, for her suggestion which proposed eliminating the word "range" following the class title of most Forestry classes on personnel documents. In the future the class title will be designated by the appropriate alphabetical symbol, such as "A", "B", etc.

Elimination of the word "range" will reduce the amount of time needed in preparing personnel documents for the many employees of the Division.

WTS: "Should there be additional justification for your request, we shall be glad, of course, to reconsider it."

WTRM: "If you are naive enough to be persistent about this, we'll keep answering you this way until you finally give up."

WTS: "The instruction in question should not have been construed as meaning....."
WTRM: "Never mind what we said. You should have known what we meant."

ABOUT THE DIVISION

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

The year 1955 has been an interesting and extraordinary one for the Humboldt Ranger Unit. In the first place, the fire load was the heaviest in total acreage in ten years, and 1952 was the last year in which there was a greater number of fires. Most of the acreage was contained in the 21,000 acre Healy Logging Company fire which started on September 2. This was not only one of the largest fires on record for this unit, but being almost entirely in timber was undoubtedly one of the most expensive fires in the state in terms of actual timber destruction, equipment loss, production loss and suppression costs.

Those who have never seen a fire in concentrated logging slash cannot appreciate the intensity and destructive force of the Healy fire. The rate of spread at times was fantastic considering the type of fuel. For example, at midnight on September 3, fire camp was moved from a dangerous location in the path of the fire to a safer place nearly three miles away. However, at 6:00 A.M. the next morning, the head passed over and beyond the new location, and although it was in a wide clearing, the resulting fire storm came close to taking the camp. Then after the fire calmed down and ten days had been spent in monumental fire line construction, nature, the great practical joker, sent nearly two inches of rain. The whole force was mired down in ankle deep mud!

Now, to provide the variety which makes Humboldt County an interesting place, the rain is still falling and an unusually wet fall has resulted. At this writing, the Eel River is some five feet above flood stage and more is expected. The flood situation in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties is becoming critical.

Among personal items, Juanita Hosier is back to work again after taking the summer to recuperate from a broken neck received in an auto accident in May. It could have been worse, but not very much so, and we're certainly glad to see her back. Also, Ed Martin is the proud father of a second daughter born November 20.

Several of our personnel have either left the organization, or transferred to other areas. Foreman Earl Shaw retired last September.

Ed Martin
Assistant Forest Technician

HIGH ROCK HONOR CAMP

I would like to bring to your attention the following report on the response of High Rock Honor Camp inmates to the plight of the children of Weott at the time of the flood disaster.

The inmates had heard that flood victims in Weott were entirely isolated with only necessary food, clothing, and medicine being brought in by helicopter, and that due to the emergency there would be little or no Christmas for the many

children among the evacuees. It was only two days before Christmas Eve, and the inmates discussed the matter among themselves and then approached Department of Corrections officials at the camp and asked if there was any way they could make donations for the purchase of Christmas candy for the children, and if there was any way same could be sent in to the children of Weott. Withdrawal slips were furnished the inmates and the 30 inmates subscribed to a total of \$147.00 in donations.

Contact was made with the Warden at San Quentin via Forestry radio and telephone, asking his permission to have the money withdrawn from the inmates' accounts at the prison. Permission was granted, the money withdrawn, and the candy purchased in San Francisco through the efforts of the Chief Camp Supervisor. The Custodial Officer in charge of the camp asked San Quentin if it would be possible to place the candy on a Southwest Airways plane for Eureka, where it could be picked up and delivered to Weott. This was done and the shipment of candy arrived at the Arcata airport on the morning of December 24th. Forestry personnel picked the candy up at the airport and delivered it to the Fortuna office where it was picked up by the writer who managed to get through badly damaged roads to Weott. At Weott the candy was delivered to Civil Defense officials at the Weott School for distribution by them to the children on Christmas Eve.

Since that time, many letters of appreciation have been received from various groups and the children of Weott, telling the inmates of their gratitude for helping to make their Christmas a little more cheerful.

Jack Cullumber
Forestry Work Project Supervisor

SHASTA COUNTY

Like the mail man, our Bob Blanford believes the weather report must go in! December 22nd right after lunch Bob decided he had to bring in his weather charts so wanting company he asked Ed Gladish to go along. Now Ed was going below for Christmas and wanted to get to the bank before it closed so he said he'd be "available" if they could get back by 3 o'clock. On the assurance that they would be back in plenty of time, Bob & Ed drove off in the Power Wagon. The weather reports were collected and on their way back small Salt Creek (near Bella Vista) had risen some and darned if they didn't stall their motor in mid stream - she just wouldn't budge either backward or forward so a distress call was sent out via radio for Paul Barnard to come to the rescue. As it was quite a while after "3" it was near dark when Paul arrived at Salt Creek and the sight that greeted him has caused many a laugh since. There sat Bob Blanford & Ed Gladish on the radiator of the Power Wagon pushing debris away from their windshield and Ed was heard murmuring "Old Available Ed - always volunteer - back by 3 o'clock".

Billie Robinson
District II

DISTRICT IV

Automotive Foreman Harry G. Ramsden has constructed a septic tank disposal unit with a capacity of 300 gallons from surplus boiler tank and Barton pump primer assembly parts.

This unit has been put into service throughout District IV to take care of pumping filled septic tanks caused by flooding or normal use. It has more than paid for itself. The unit is portable. All that is required to operate it is to hook up the vacuum line to the engine manifold.

Any of the other districts who wish to build one may secure the information from District IV headquarters.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

LETTER TO RANGER WILLIAM F. MANN DATED DECEMBER 29, 1955

"We wish to express our deepest appreciation to your division, and especially to Palmer White for meeting the boat on Lovers Lane and taking my sister Kathryn Ferrasci and her three children, my husband, and myself, to the hospital. As Palmer knows, Kathryn had just come from the hospital that day and was in the process of recovering from an operation. Her husband, James Ferrasci, and my mother, Mrs. Ray Sullivan, were attending the funeral of the Ferrasci infant.

"We are so happy that as a result of his (Mr. White's) efforts, Kathryn is now doing nicely and has been reunited with her three surviving children and her husband.

"Sincerely and gratefully yours,
/s/ Josephine Dougherty
(Mrs.) Josephine Dougherty
Wienford Dougherty
Mrs. Ray Sullivan
James Ferrasci
Kathryn Ferrasci
Kitty Ferrasci
Jimmie Ray Ferrasci
Jeffrey Thomas Ferrasci"

FROM RANGER W. F. MANN

The above is a typical letter of appreciation we have been receiving from the recipients of our efforts during recent flood rescue work.

I would like to point out that a 3-man crew working with a power wagon and towing a boat, actually rescued over 150 people on December 23rd before the vehicle became inoperative in deep water.

Many of our other vehicles and men performed equally successful duties in the areas of Three Rivers, Lemon Cove, Farmersville, Visalia, Tagus Ranch, and South Woodlake Areas.

KINGS COUNTY

Kings County's annual dinner and get-together was held the evening of December 10th. Fried chicken, salad, and desert was enjoyed by all. Guests were Rangers Bill Pennington and Bill Mann and their families. Entertainment followed in the form of games. Arrangements were made by a committee of wives, with

Mrs. Allen as chairman. We wish to thank this committee and everyone who helped for this enjoyable evening.

After reading the wet stick this morning which registered .32 we realize we are in the middle of one of the wettest years that has come to pass for a long time. Grass is growing in areas of the county where a spear of grass hasn't grown for a long time, no doubt the boys will have to roll out a little more hose this year.

We have had considerable sickness this winter so far. One of our drivers, Cross at Halls Corner, had a small operation on his eye - he is doing O.K. Mrs. Bettencourt the driver's wife from Stratford has had considerable trouble with slipped discs in her back, but she is coming along fine now. Red the driver at Burris Park has been on the sick list with colds but is much better.

Several couples from down this way are planning on attending the annual district party to wish J. D. "Dick" Rafferty a fond farewell.

We were lucky in having a nice big dam across the Kings River preventing what would have been a very disastrous flood. We gave what assistance we could to our good neighbors in Tulare County.

Enough for this time, keep the row boat tied to the back porch.

It has been a little on the cold side here in the valley for the past week, temperatures down to around 26 to 30 degrees. We now have at headquarters the official weather station for this part of the county.

Something new has been added, one fire fighter 9 lb. 11 oz. John Leroy Gardner, born February 10, 1956, to Mr. and Mrs. John Gardner, fire truck driver at the Corcoran Station.

A shift of two Assistant Rangers is in the process, Assistant Ranger Couste is being transferred to the Coarsegold Assistant Ranger District and Assistant Ranger Stephens will move from Coarsegold to Kings County. This is a very beneficial move as far as Couste is concerned as it will give him an opportunity to secure training and experience in Schedule B fire control which in turn will be beneficial in advancement. We will all miss Jack very much as he has been a very progressive and faithful worker for the people here in Kings County. We all wish Jack and his family the best of luck.

We have just received two new fire trucks constructed by P. E. Van Pelt, both trucks are classed as number one rural trucks and everyone is overjoyed with receiving two such good pieces of equipment.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

TULARE COUNTY

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Miller on the recent arrival of Connie Elaine, weighing 9 lbs. 8 oz. at birth. Bill, a forest fire truck driver at Visalia headquarters was overheard making the comment, "it isn't a boy, but it's sure a good sized girl." Bill was asked the other day how mother and daughter were getting along and he replied, "just fine, gained another pound and a half."

December 23, 1955, saw the greatest amount of water come down the Kaweah River into the Visalia area in the history of the county. No accurate measurement was possible due to the measuring equipment being washed out at McKay's point. However, the best estimates of the Water Master says it must have been between seventy-five and eighty thousand second feet. We realize that even this was small potatoes as to what happened in some of the areas up North. However, even this was a lot of water. All Division of Forestry equipment and men were working day and night in rescue etc., for several days.

Two county fire stations had to be evacuated because of the flood waters, namely Farmersville and the Airport. However, much to our surprise, no water got in the Farmersville station for some unknown reason. Three Division of Forestry employees, Foreman Parker, Mechanic Springer, and Yours Truly (the writer) are very thankful they didn't get three or four feet in their homes, but certainly found out what a problem and how much work ten inches of that muddy water can cause. The entire county is now taking a unified stand for the immediate appropriation of funds to construct Terminus Dam on the Kaweah which will prevent such a disaster in the future.

William Mann, Ranger of Tulare County, was host recently to the San Joaquin Valley Fireman's Association meeting in Woodville. Harvey French, Special Agent for the National Board of Fire Underwriters, out of Los Angeles, gave an interesting talk on the problem of arson in the rural areas. Many of you will remember when Harvey worked for the Division between the time he left the U. S. Forest Service and went to work for the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

The following is a brief analysis concerning fires in Tulare County this past year -- (we still can't believe it happened with the kind of fire weather we all had the last of August and first part of September):

We find Zones 1 and 2 had 28 fires, burning 18 acres. This is a considerable reduction, which is putting it mildly, and I have yet been unable to find anyone here that remembers any year when either figure was lower.

The total number of fires in Zone 3 reached 1000 in 1950 and has been on an increase each ^{year} since that time. We find a decrease of 180 fires in 1955 over 1954 when the total was 1172. We can only attribute this to the hazard reduction work the Division has done, that which the railroads were encouraged to do, the prevention efforts put forth county-wide, and last but not least, a lot of luck. We are now down below 1000 again and will try for additional reductions this coming year.

H. L. Arnold
Associate State Forest Ranger

DISASTER EMERGENCY

North of the town of Lemon Cove, in the Kaweah River over-flow area, a number of small homes existed. In the early morning hours of December 23, the Kaweah River flooded and flowed through this area, reaching stages never before recorded in history. Several Division of Forestry men, Deputy Sheriffs, Fish and Game men, and citizens effected warning and rescue work in this area.

Before daylight Constable Marty Donlan reported that some concern was felt for two missing men who lived in cabins in the overflow area above the Vialia Electric Railway trestle. These men had not been accounted for.

Bill Owen, our regular driver at Lemon Cove, walked to the trestle area before daylight in driving rain. He could see two cabins in the flood area with water and debris flowing around them, and could see what appeared to be a faint light in one of them. He shouted and called several times, but received no answer due to terrific noise of the flood waters.

Owen returned to Lemon Cove, secured a rope from his truck and returned to the scene accompanied by Mr. Russell E. Harris, a citizen of Lemon Cove and volunteer fireman. They were joined by another man who had walked out on the trestle to view the river. This man's identity is unknown. It was decided something had to be done before the river rose higher or the cabins undermined.

One end of the rope was tied to Owen and he made his way approximately 180 feet through water, sometimes wading neck deep and at times swimming through debris. The cabins were on slightly higher ground than the area through which Owen had swam, but on arrival at the cabins he found them in some four feet of water.

Owen looked in the window of the first cabin and saw the occupant, Mr. Walter Drummond, age 60, perched on top of a box which had been placed on top of a table. Mr. Drummond told Owen that he thought there was someone in the next cabin. Owen waded to the other cabin and found Mr. Emil Johnson, age 73, perched on a box on top of a table.

Owen decided he could not take these men out himself by rope with safety. He returned to shore assisted by Mr. Harris and the unidentified person pulling on the rope. Owen returned to Lemon Cove, radioed on the fire frequency and requested a boat. Later, Fish and Game Warden George Burnett accompanied by two other men answered Owen's request when they arrived with a boat and motor.

Owen and Harris returned to the scene with the boat crew and effected the safe rescue of Mr. Drummond and Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson has now returned to the middle west and cannot be contacted. Mr. Drummond was asked what he thought when he saw Owen at the window. He replied, "I didn't know what to think - too many things happening. River was making so much noise, but I was here in the 1950 flood and just didn't think it could get any higher. Soon it was too late to leave." Mr. Drummond has, a number of times, expressed his appreciation to Owen. Mr. Russell E. Harris commented, "I couldn't have done it - water rushing too fast, and all that brush and wire in the water. Couldn't help Owen on the way over, but helped pull him back with the rope. The water was five to six feet deep at least and didn't know if it was coming any higher. The time was about 8:00 or 8:30 A.M."

Several people in Lemon Cove have expressed their sentiments in this matter. All feel Bill Owen should have some official commendation for his actions.

May I point out that Bill Owen is a small man, approximately 5' 6", and weighs about 130 pounds. He is strong for his size and is known to be an excellent swimmer. The hazards created by fast flowing, muddy, cold, debris-filled water certainly presented severe obstacles. The wire Mr. Harris referred to was from barbed wire fences and utility lines carried by the flood waters.

W. F. Mann
State Forest Ranger

MADERA-MERCED COUNTY NEWS

On January 1, 1956, Clifford Atkinson, 62, died of a sudden heart attack in Honolulu. Atkinson and his wife, Stella, were on a winter vacation there with their son who is stationed at Hickham Field,

Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson were the Lookouts on Basalt Lookout in Merced County during the 1954 and 1955 fire seasons.

Cliff has had a very long and active career as a public servant. He was Sheriff of Pulaski County, Little Rock, Arkansas, for eight years. From 1942 until his retirement in 1953, Cliff was the Chief of the Arkansas State Police. At that time, he and Mrs. Atkinson moved to the west coast to be near their four sons, stationed here in the service.

To Mrs. Atkinson, our deepest sympathies.

Joe. E. Griggs
Assistant State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT IV

Effective March 1st Assistant Ranger, Jack Couste, assigned to Kings County, Schedule A, will be transferred to the Coarsegold Assistant Ranger District, Schedule B, Madera County, and Assistant Ranger Newey O. Stephens, previously assigned to Coarsegold District will move to Kings County and assume the Schedule A. duties there.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

DISTRICT VI

Ex-District VI Foreman Tom Connors, now of District I, visited us over the Christmas-New Year period. He loudly proclaimed a new-found love for the North but we now wonder! As a "native" sun lover down here, he had developed a revulsion to clouds and we feel that his bones told him in mid-December to come South. Anyway, he did come just before the Russian River broadened its coverage. He's back there now but we have not yet heard whether he found his rented house or not. Next time he takes off, ask him why. It may save you a call to the Weather Bureau.

CSEA chapters around these parts have become top heavy with District Headquarters personnel. Chapter 88 has Associate Ranger Reese as its president and Foreman-Trainee Fred Cain as its secretary - Fred having succeeded Dispatcher Doug Glenn who had two years of it. Associate Ranger Jack Burke is vice president of Arrowhead #112. Then there is Supervisor Cab Brown of Rainbow CDC Camp (we look on the camps as District Headquarters near relatives) is president of Palomar #81. By the way, have you heard the story of the non-CSEA State employee, who upon his death bed, named his desired pall bearers. His wife, noting that all of them were CSEA members who had tried to sign him up, asked him why he had chosen them. He answered, "Oh, they've been carrying me for years now. They might just as well carry me on my last lap."

Here at our headquarters is a man approaching a different last lap even though he is 69.94 years old. We say different last lap because he is forced to retire even though he's about the youngest looking, the healthiest and most physically active member of this staff. The man is District Painter Joe Thompson who hits 70 on January 21st. Joe started state employment in late 1945 and has 63 days of sick leave due him - a good record for a man of any age. Especially so, when remembering that Joe was off some for a sick wife. Joe is liked by everyone, especially the wives who lived close to his paintings on state houses. We are sorry to see him go as we know he is sorry to have to go. We recommend him highly for any non-state painting you may have!

One last thought, Gene Bertsch is showing steady recovery but is still not allowed near this headquarters.

Douglas Glenn, Dispatcher

NEWS FROM THE "SHIFTING SANDS" DESERT DISTRICT

Now that cool weather has finally come to most of Southern California, the fire season has really begun in Riverside County's desert region, with many winter homes being opened at this time. These winter residents of the desert are being cautioned by Forestry personnel to have all heating stoves checked, as well as electrical wiring. "It takes a few minutes to check it, but only a few seconds to wreck it!" is the motto of the desert district fire control crews.

Our congratulations for a job well done go to Assistant Ranger Mel Miller of the desert district, first president of CSEA Chapter 126 which was formed last year. He spent considerable time in getting the new chapter operating, even though he has the biggest Assistant Ranger district in the county (or state?) to cover. Other of his activities include numerous meetings with Volunteer Firemen each week, fire prevention talks before schools, PTA groups, etc., and taking part in plans for youth activities for the kids of the community. We would like to nominate him as the busiest Assistant Ranger in District VI.

Bowling has aroused a great deal of interest in Chapter 126, CSEA, and a team has been formed. Representing the CDF "Desert Rats" are fire truck drivers Dave Raymond and Tom Stein.

Since we were scooped last month by the district office correspondent on Foreman Bill Lord's recent marriage, we will mention here that Driver Donald Hold of the Blythe Fire Control Station also took the fatal plunge recently. And speaking of families, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Stayner of the Blythe Air Base Station became parents of another young fire fighter on October 24.

The Ripley Fire Control Station residence in Riverside County was completed approximately a week before the Christmas holidays. Fire truck driver E. Dwayne Harvey and his family will move in as soon as they return from their vacation. With a burst of last-minute speed, Division personnel wound up work on the residence project in order to be finished for the holidays.

Plans are made and materials purchased for the new Oasis Fire Control Station, which will be located on one of Riverside County's main arteries, Highway 99, in Oasis. Construction is to begin after the first of the year.

Drivers Tom Stein and Dave Raymond

DISTRICT VI

There are some fatter pay checks drifting down from Sacramento for local gold. Chuck Ulrey of San Bernardino is one of the participants and he didn't even have to change counties. He's now the second Associate, assisting Ranger "Butch" Skinner in San Bernardino County. By courtesy of the recent Personnel Board ruling Dispatcher Paul Scott gets Assistant Ranger title and pay without changing desks. Riverside County, who already has a Schedule A Associate Ranger, loses the present incumbent, Ray Banks, to an Associate opening in District I headquarters on March 1. The writer doesn't know who fills Ray's spot, but he does know the old grapevine is sure jumping. Among the many reasons for hating to lose Ray is that he was a frequent contributor to the News Letter - and they were good.

Speaking of changes, the rain drought finally ended January 25th. We went from a season total of two inches to about seven in 36 hours. Some of our mountain burns received up to ten inches. Erosion was starting just as the rains stopped. San Bernardino City can thank her guiding star for the drought that preceded this "Big Inches."

Good news walked in District VI Headquarters recently in the person of Gene Bertsch. He's looking better every time. Still no word as to when he will return to duty, but he came in, as President, to head an organizing meeting for our May 11 and 12 Southern California Association of Foresters and Firewardens meeting to be held at Big Pines in Los Angeles County.

Another get-together not far away is the District Dinner-Dance on Saturday, March 3. We hope some of our old buddies can flivver their way down. It will be at the Legion House by the shores of Fairmont Lake in Riverside City.

James K. Mace
Deputy State Forester

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

San Diego County is well prepared for the air age in Forestry when it arrives. Ranger Jim Fenlon has been taking lessons and is about ready for his license. Associate Curly Francis has had his commercial for some time so anytime the Division wants to buy a scout plane San Diego County has people to fly it. Ranger Jim says those Sierra trout are going to have to look out now because he can reach them in a few hours.

Fire season wasn't too heavy last year and the boys were able to get home once in a while. Foreman Hector Reed has a new fire fighter who is now in training and will be ready for the 1,973 fire season. Foreman Dick Winterrowd is now the proud possessor of a howlingly healthy baby girl.

Assistant Ranger F. M. Anderson can't brag about any new additions to the family but he is happy about a new swimming pool complete with 5% mortgage. Oh well, it's only money and who has any!

Work is progressing in San Diego County on a Forestry Employees Association and it should be in operation soon. It's patterned after the one in District IV and when set up can merge easily.

A new nurse tanker chassis has been acquired in San Diego County and

will be built up by a local firm. Should be ready for delivery by fire season.

Frank M. Anderson
Assistant Ranger

"TIMBER FIRE"

By Bill Hunden of Orange

When I go walking thru the woods, and o'er the country side,
I gaze upon the timber and my heart swells up with pride,
It's taken many years to grow so fine, so large and tall,
But if a fire started it would quickly take it all.

Did you ever see the smoke roll from the timber all around,
And see the flames go leaping to the tree tops from the ground,
The brush and ferns all blazing, as flames leap thru the air,
And burning snags exploding, throwing fire everywhere.

The fire fighters working as they swear and sweat and shout,
Their hands and faces blistered and their tongues a hanging out,
The fire roaring madly as it leaps from tree to tree,
The flames and smoke so thick about it's hard for you to see.

Wild animals of every size go racing madly by,
For many there is no escape and they will burn and die,
The birds and water fowl will fare by far the best,
But many eggs and young ones will perish in the nest.

There's nothing quite so desolate, so ugly and unclean,
As country where a fire's burned up every bit of green,
Where giant trees lay smouldering, all broken, charred and black,
And it will take a hundred years for timber to grow back.

The time has come for action, no more may we condemn,
Statistics show that people cause at least nine tenths of them,
It's hurting everyone of us, we all must pay the price,
But we can stop this awful waste by heeding this advice.

Be careful with that cigarette, make sure you put it out,
Pour water on your campfire so there can be no doubt,
And if you're using matches as lots of people do,
You'll know it's out completely if you break it half in two.

Don't smoke while you are traveling where fire hazards are,
Don't throw away a burning thing while riding in a car,
And when you're puffing on your pipe, be it a cob or brier,
Remember that a spark from it can start a forest fire.

Don't enter posted timberlands when fire season's here,
Don't leave your scraps and papers laying scattered everywhere,
There'll be no game for us to hunt and rivers will go dry,
And there would be no timber for our children by and by.

It's up to everyone of us to really do our part,
And do our very best to see a fire doesn't start,
The forest is the livelihood of our community,
So let us vow to do our best, especially you and me.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Charles Columbro has been appointed as Forest Technician in District I to replace Jean Sindel as Forest Practice Inspector. He was formerly the Associate Ranger in District I headquarters.

Deane Bennett, former Associate Ranger in District III headquarters, has been appointed Forest Fire Prevention Officer in District IV.

Associate Ranger Thomas Bryan has transferred from San Bernardino County to replace Deane Bennett in the District III headquarters office.

John Ritchey, Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in Monterey County, has been assigned as a Forestry Trainee in District V.

Walter Pease, former Forestry Trainee in District I has been transferred to a position of Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in Sonoma County.

Phillip Lowell has been appointed as Forestry Trainee in District I to replace Walter Pease.

Dorothy M. Lewis

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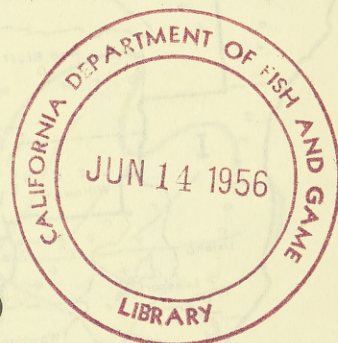
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State of
California

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER


Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.


F. H. RAYMOND - STATE FORESTER

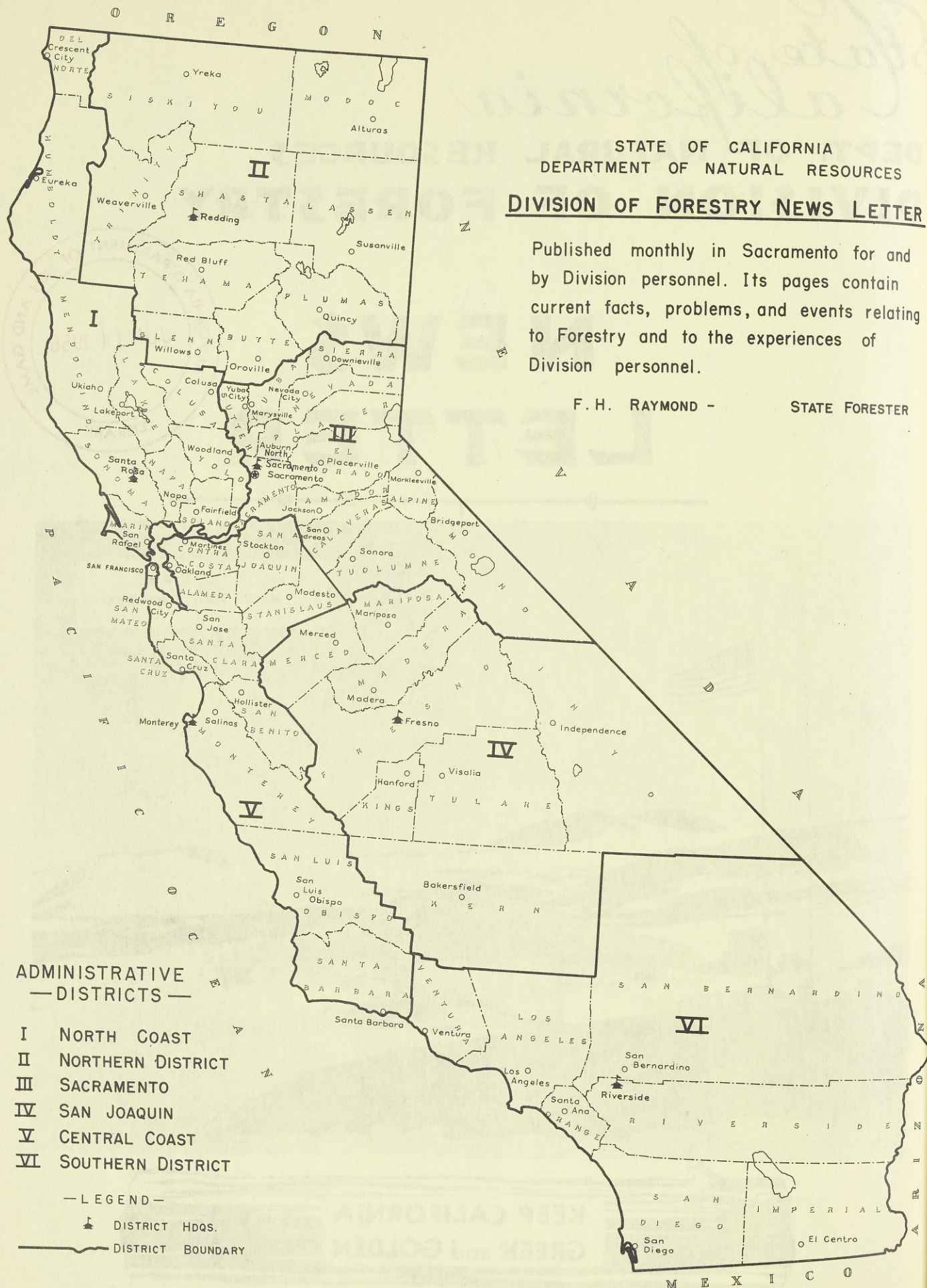
**ADMINISTRATIVE
—DISTRICTS—**

- I NORTH COAST
- II NORTHERN DISTRICT
- III SACRAMENTO
- IV SAN JOAQUIN
- V CENTRAL COAST
- VI SOUTHERN DISTRICT

—LEGEND—

 DISTRICT HDQS.

 DISTRICT BOUNDARY





OREGON WHITE OAK

OREGON WHITE OAK

Scientific Name: *Quercus garryana* (Kwer-cus-garrie-anna)

Common Names: Oregon white, garry, western white, post.

Location: From Puget Sound down the coast ranges to vicinity of Marin County. In valleys and on hillsides, generally in warmer, dryer sites than the typical coastal species; not on slopes or drainages near the ocean in California; occasionally inland almost to the Sacramento Valley. Trees on poorer sites are smaller, sometimes almost shrubs. In rich valleys this oak becomes large and graceful.

Uses: The only highly valuable lumber oak in the northwest. Large quantities milled in Washington and Oregon for tools, implements, ship and building construction. Used mainly for fuel in California.

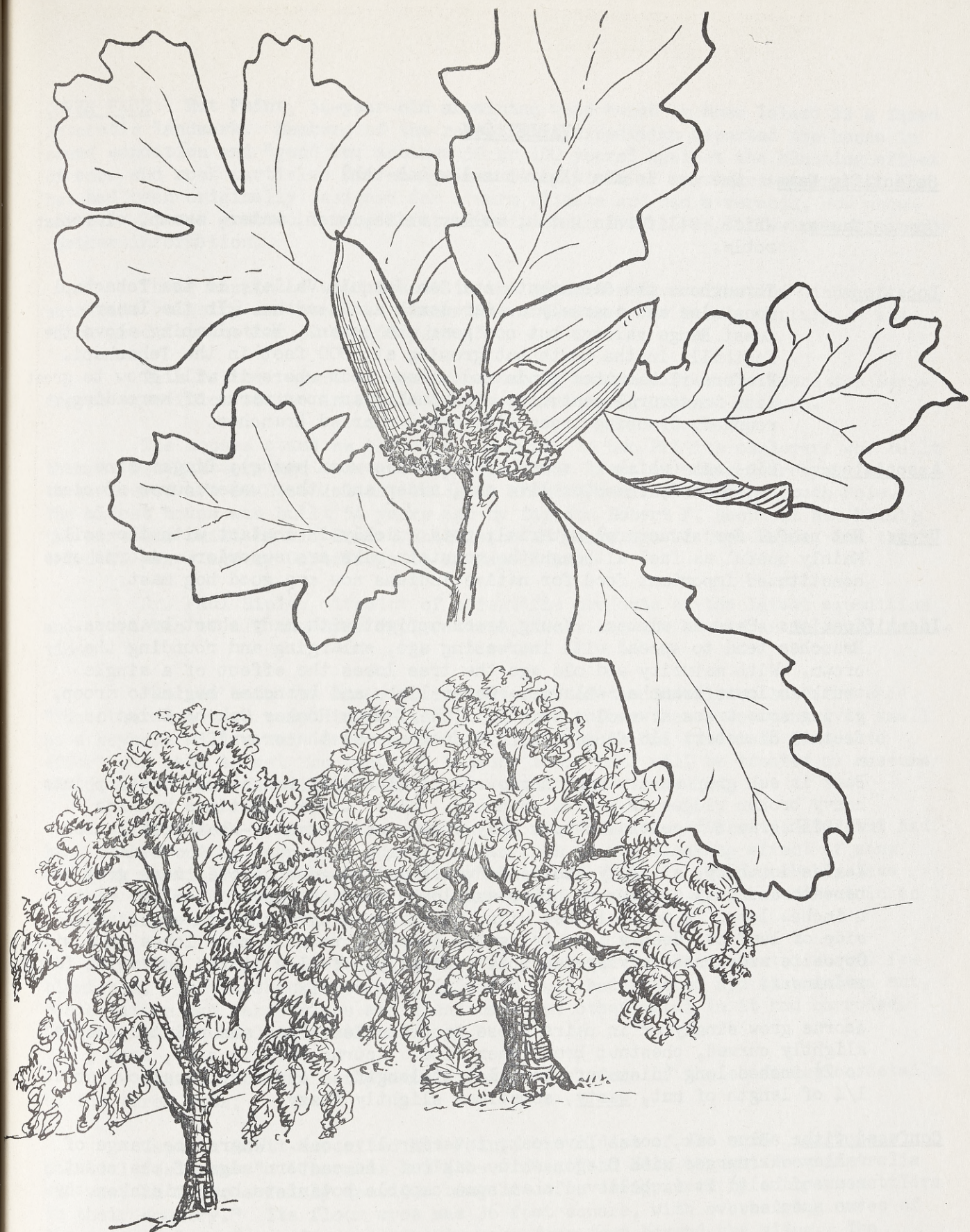
Associates: Douglas fir, black oak, coast live oak, buckeye, laurel, tan oak, maple, madrone, ponderosa pine.

Identification: Bare of leaves in winter. Bark appearing almost shreddy with shallow vertical grooves; grooves break into small plates with age. Bark distinctly ashen gray, appearing white among other tree trunks; often streaked with moss. Trunk upright, generally clear of limbs for about half its length. Limbs upright in early life, becoming more horizontal with age. Large trees may be 5 feet in diameter, 90 feet high, but rarely so large in California.

Leaves leathery, 2 to 4 inches (rarely 6 inches) long, about 2 to 3 inches wide; upper surface with waxy shine, medium yellow-green to dark green. Under leaf surface dull and somewhat fuzzy, grayish green. Yellow veins and midrib prominent. Leaf edges cut into irregular pattern of rounded lobes and sub-lobes, 3 to 6 lobes to each side; opposite sides not symmetrical in shape. No leaf edge spines or prickles. Leaf stem about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long. Young twigs are distinctly hairy.

Acorns blunt and roundish, 1 to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. Acorn cup is shallow and made up of sheaths, not warty.

Confused with: Valley oak (which lacks blunt acorn, sheathed acorn cup, polished upper leaf surface). California black oak (which lacks whitish bark, leaves without spines).



VALLEY OAK

VALLEY OAK

Scientific Name: *Quercus lobata* (Kwer-cus-low-bah-tah)

Common Names: White, California white, valley white, mush, water, swamp, el roblar, roble.

Location: Throughout the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley; in the Tehachapi Mountains and sparsely as far south as Pasadena. In the Inner Coast Range valleys but not near the ocean. Not climbing above the foothills in the north but growing at 5000 feet in the Tehachapi. Prefers rich bottom lands and stream beds where it will grow to great size in several centuries, eventually as open parks of spreading, rounded, drooping trees with heavy gnarled branches.

Associates: Blue oak (which it somewhat resembles when young); Digger pine, cottonwood, interior live oak, alder and other watercourse species.

Uses: Not useful for structural material; rots quickly in contact with the soil. Mainly useful as fuel although the mountain oaks are superior. Acorns once constituted important food for native Indians now are good hog mast.

Identifications: Bare in winter. Young trees upright with many short branches. Branches tend to spread with increasing age, enlarging and rounding the crown. With maturity and old age the tree loses the effect of a single trunk as lower branches enlarge. Outer limbs and branches begin to droop, giving some trees a weeping effect. (The famous Hooker Oak of Chico is 8 feet in diameter, 110 feet high, 150 feet across the crown).

Bark is ash gray when young; narrow vertical ridges and checks develop into heavy broken ridges or plates when old. Older trees sometimes remains whitish gray but generally turn gray brown color of much-weathered lumber.

Leaves leathery, slightly "polished" dark yellow-green above, more grayish beneath and dull. Hairs on upper and lower surface hardly visible; $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, no spines or prickles on edge. Each side of leaf cut deeply into irregular lobes, 4 to 6 or more lobes on a side. Opposite sides not very symmetrical generally. Yellow midrib and veins fairly prominent.

Acorns grow singly or in pairs close to branchlet; long and pointed, maybe slightly curved, chestnut brown when ripe. Acorns vary in size, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long (diameter about $\frac{1}{3}$ of length). Acorn cup shallow, about $\frac{1}{4}$ of length of nut, warty, sometimes slightly fuzzy.

Confused with: Blue oak, coast live oak, interior live oak. Where the range of valley oak merges with Oregon white oak (at the eastern edge of the coast redwood belt) it is believed that some capable botanists have mistaken the two species.

COVER PAGE: Hut Point, 54-year-old unpainted wood house on Ross Island is a famed Antarctic landmark. Members of the recent Navy expedition reported the house in sound condition and "good for another 50 or 100 years" against the blasting effect of snow and rock particles driven against it by winds of hurricane strength. The hut had been originally designed for a warm climate and had a veranda, now snow-packed. It was erected by the Scott expedition in 1902. See following article for further information.

Three unpainted wood houses in the Antarctic have withstood winds of hurricane velocity and repeated blanketing under snow for half a century -- and "look good for another 50 or 100 years."

This is the report of members recently returned from the Operation Deep-freeze expedition to the Antarctic led by Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd.

The houses stand as historic monuments to two British explorers who built them as headquarters and subsequently lost their lives on polar journeys. All three houses are on Ross Island, which is about 800 miles from the South Pole. The oldest house was built 54 years ago by Captain Robert F. Scott at Hut Point; the next was built by Sir Ernest Shackleton 48 years ago at Cape Royds; and the third 45 years ago by Captain Scott at Cape Evans.

Dr. Paul Siple, director of scientific projects of the latest expedition and a veteran of all the Byrd explorations, described the houses as in sound condition.

"We saw both the interior and exterior of the Shackleton hut", he said. "The other two were completely filled with snow. Down there, an opening as small as a keyhole will permit drift snow to fill a room in due time. No immediate effort was made to get the snow out because those huts will be treated as museums and detailed records will be made of the conditions discovered.

"The soft grain of the wood on the windward side of Scott's 1902 hut had been etched out as deep as a quarter of an inch by the blasting effect of snow and rock particles driven against it by the wind. Yet, it would probably take another 50 or 100 years to wear down the wood. The harder grain stood out in an interesting, attractive pattern.

"The hut at Cape Evans, quite fully exposed to the elements, showed few blemishes. In the Shackleton hut, in which snow had entered and then melted out, condensation had taken place and steel cans and other metal in it had corroded. However, there was little other damage."

Journals of the early expeditions reveal some of the construction details of the three huts.

Captain Scott described Hut Point, the oldest of the three, as "quite a palatial residence." "The main hut", he wrote, "had been brought from Australia and was, in fact, a fairly spacious bungalow of a design used by outlying settlers in their country." Its floor area was 36 feet square, with overhanging eaves of the pyramidal roof resting on supports some four feet beyond the sides. The supports were buried three or four feet in the volcanic rock. The house had a covered veranda, because it had been designed for the warm climate of the "sheep country" of Australia. It had a double layer of wood sheathing.

Explorer Shackleton had similar praise for his own headquarters at Cape Royds. After returning from a 22-day expedition, he wrote, "We were able to appreciate at their full value the warmth and comfort of our little hut."

The Shackleton hut was prefabricated in London. It was 33 by 19 feet. Shackleton wrote: "It was made of stout fir timbering of best quality in walls, roofs, and floors, and the parts were morticed and tenoned to facilitate erection in the Antarctic. The walls were strengthened with iron cleats fitted to main posts and horizontal timbering, and the roof principals were provided with strong iron tie rods. The hut was lined with match boarding, and the walls and roof were covered externally first with strong roofing felt, then one-inch tongued and grooved boards, and finally with another covering of felt."

The four-inch space in framing between the match-boarding was packed with granulated cork. Shackleton said.

"During our first severe blizzard, the hut shook and trembled so that every moment we expected the whole thing to carry away", he wrote.

The third hut at Cape Evans, built by Captain Scott on his second expedition, was described as a "snug, commodious house" by the Captain. It was 50 feet long and 25 feet wide. Its framework was lined with two thicknesses of tongue-and-grooved boards, between which was a layer of dried seaweed, quilted in sack-cloth. The outer side was also covered with two thicknesses of boarding with seaweed insulation.

Roof and floor also had double boarding with insulation material between.

On January 17, 1911, Scott wrote: "We took up our abode in the hut today and are simply overwhelmed with its comfort."

A year and a day later Captain Scott reached the South Pole, only to find that Norwegian Captain Roald Amundsen, using dogs and not stopping for scientific work, had won the race by a month. Captain Scott and four companions died of starvation, exhaustion, and exposure on the way back to their wood hut, leaving a heroic record of what has been described as "the worst journey in the world."

Explorer Shackleton also died on a subsequent journey.

The wood huts they built stand today as three of the most unusual museums in the world.

News Service
National Lumber Manufacturers Association

APRIL ACTIVITIES

INSECT CONTROL: The Osborne Hill Insect Control Project, and infestation of western pine beetle in ponderosa pine, was completed this spring before the insects emerged to attack other trees. There were 1,258 infested trees treated under co-operative agreements on 18 separate ownerships. An additional 450 infested trees were salvaged or treated by 28 landowners. Lands under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Indian Affairs were included in this project in addition to the privately owned lands.

Actual control costs are not known yet, but the cost of control on private lands are to be shared on a 50-50 basis between private parties and the State. The cost of control on Federal lands is being borne by the Federal Government.

C.D.C. inmates from the Forestry Honor Camp at Iron Mine and C.Y.A. wards from the Smartsville camp were used to do the insect control work under the supervision of the Division of Forestry.

Another infestation of western pine beetles near Burney was brought under control. Some 31 trees were treated. The work was accomplished through co-operation between the landowners and the Division.

An outbreak of bark beetles followed the 1955 logging on the Ellen Pickett State Forest. A small insect control job removing 15 infested trees was done this spring to abate the threat.

Treatment on all these projects required the felling, peeling, and burning of the trees to prevent the insect broods from emerging to attack neighboring healthy trees.

An annual forest pest survey is being made from the air by the Division of Forest Insect Research of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station from April 30 to May 9. The Division of Forestry is co-operating by providing an observer. The current survey does not include Southern California as a ground check has already been made of that area.

"Forest Insect Conditions in California", an official report of the California Forest Pest Control Action Council based upon 1955 detection surveys of forest insects and diseases, was published and has been distributed by the Division to California timber owners and operators, public and private agencies, and other interested parties.

REFORESTATION: During the month of April 10,000 ponderosa pine, 4,000 sugar pine, and 600 coulter pine seedlings were planted on 15 acres on the Mount Zion State Forest in Amador County. C.Y.A. wards from the Pine Hill Camp did the planting under Division supervision. The area is being used as a demonstration and experimental area.

Some 4,000 ponderosa pine seedlings were planted at the Forest Ranch Forest Fire Station in Butte County by C.D.C. inmates from the Magalia Honor Camp under Division supervision. The area planted was primarily covered by brush.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: A comprehensive report on the Williams Ranch Project in Shasta County was begun during April. This report will contain a summary of all experimental work in brush clearing, revegetation, and follow-up treatment of cleared area, and results obtained will be evaluated. It will constitute a complete record of the project; portions having general application will be prepared for publication.

Plans for the Spring Dell Range Study in San Benito County were reviewed by personnel from the Division of Forestry and the Agricultural Extension Service. Two days were spent in eastern Santa Clara County reviewing controlled burning activity in that area. A considerable amount of winter burning for game habitat improvement is being done in this area, as well as summer burning for livestock

range. Much of the area is primarily watershed and game range and is best managed for these uses.

SOIL-VEGETATION SURVEY: Plans have been completed to integrate Division of Forestry field personnel effort into the co-operative Soil-Vegetation Survey. This survey is financed by State funds and it is being done under co-operative agreement by the University of California and the California Forest and Range Experiment Station. It was established to inventory the soils and natural vegetative cover of the foothill and mountainous lands to supply basic information of value in the management of these lands for timber, forage, and water. Field work is now in progress in Humboldt and Tehama Counties.

FIRE CONTROL: Three C.D.F. representatives attended a nation-wide fire equipment conference held by the U.S.F.S. in Pasadena during the early part of the month. State Forester's representatives of six States were in attendance. Forest Service personnel from each Region of the United States gathered to review the progress in fire equipment development and fire research during the past ten years, evaluate present objectives and policies, and make plans for new fire equipment development programs and projects. Perhaps the most important result of the meeting will be the drawing together of the various unco-ordinated activities of several agencies into a common plan for the future.

A series of interagency pre-fire season meetings were held at the local level. Annually for several years it has been the practice of the U. S. Forest Service, State Division of Forestry, and National Park Service to hold a conference to discuss mutual fire problems. Originally prompted to improve dispatching procedures involving the three agencies, it has since broadened its scope to include all phases of fire prevention and control. The one meeting point has now been split into three locations to permit greater local participation of field personnel. This year conferences were held in Yosemite, Strawberry Lodge, and Richardson Springs. The meetings have improved working relationships and assisted in a better understanding of "the other fellow's" problem.

Unseasonably warm weather and dry winds produced a rash of fires throughout the north state during the first week of April. The largest fires occurred in Shasta County - 40 acres brush and grass; Calaveras County - 20 acres of timber; and Placer County, 20 acres of brush. Rain and snow during the second week thoroughly drenched the fuels and thus temporarily held off a full scale beginning of the fire season.

A two-day defensive driving school for instructors brought administrative personnel from five of the Division's six administrative districts to Davis during the month. Eye testing portions of the course were conducted by the Highway Patrol. These instructors will put on the same course in their administrative areas for all personnel who drive state vehicles in an attempt to further reduce the number of auto accidents.

A pilot study of the fire protection problems on State and Private lands within the boundaries of the San Bernardino National Forest was completed. This is the first step in the establishment of a fire plan for State responsibility areas within each National Forest.

DANIEL H. BLOOD, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, RETIRES

Daniel H. Blood, Deputy Director of the State Department of Natural Resources, today announced that he will retire on August 1st after thirty-two years of state service.

"To day I am retiring is technically correct", he said, "but actually I feel that I am advancing, because I plan to devote my full time to religious work in the Portestant Episcopal Diocese of Sacramento. Let's say I am leaving the field of natural resources conservation to work at the conservation of human resources."

Blood was ordained a deacon of the Protestant Episcopal Church two years ago and at present is the diocesan treasurer. He intends to enroll this Fall in a divinity school in order to become more proficient in his new vocation.

In his youth Blood planned to enter the ministry, but his plans were altered by World War I, in which he enlisted as an army private and came out as a first lieutenant 14 months later.

"I am happy for this opportunity to enter the ministry and to offer my experience in business administration to the church."

Blood firmly believes that people of extensive successful experience, with strong avocational interests, should seek early retirement so that, with good life expectancy, they can offer their services to agencies in need. He cites; for example, the fact that many small colleges cannot afford the salaries of highly-qualified persons on their staffs. "If educators, blessed with good retirement systems, can retire early, they are in a position to accept employment with these small institutions at salaries the institutions can meet--and thus the small college benefits from wide experience and competent leadership they often cannot obtain otherwise."

Blood was born July 5, 1892, in York, Nebraska, and moved to California in 1911 where he entered the University of California on a scholarship. Later he was employed as a bank clerk and as a cashier-cost accountant. Following his return to California from World War I service, during which he married, he engaged in farming in Santa Clara and Sutter Counties.

He entered state employment as a senior account clerk in the Division of Highways in April, 1924, and moved in a year to be assistant to the secretary of the State Board of Health. In October, 1928, he was appointed chief accounting officer of the State Department of Natural Resources and in 1931 Governor James Rolph appointed him as the second Director of Natural Resources. He held this post for three years.

Since that time he has been with the department as chief accounting officer, comptroller, and deputy director.

Blood and his wife, Helen, live at 1331 41st Street. They have a daughter, Mrs. Jo Anne Smith of Sacramento, and three grandsons. Their son, Craig, a lieutenant in the U. S. Army Air Force during World War II, was lost in action in China following an air raid on Japan. He was pilot of a B-29 bomber.

Merit Award

Charles W. Compton an Assistant Ranger in the San Diego ranger unit, has been given a Certificate of Award and cash payment in the amount of \$25 for a Merit Award suggestion which he submitted.

Compton's suggestion which incidentally was first submitted in January, of 1954, concerned a board for speeding up hose laying. While the boards being developed for Divisional recommendation are not exact reproductions of Compton's pack, the Fire Control Section felt that the suggestion stimulated thinking along the lines of developing containers leading to our present research in the field.

Leon J. Lefebvre
Training Officer

NEWS OF IOWA STATE

"With a new, lightweight x-ray unit developed at Iowa State College, scientists can now determine the extent of decay in living trees.

"They hope to learn more about the defects in Iowa's standing timber, and to minimize waste of time, labor and trees in present forest practices. Previously, trees had to be cut for examinations; now, two men with a 13-pound x-ray unit can make better and faster examinations without damage. Furthermore, they can keep each tree under observation for a period of years, watching the development of decay.

"The unit was designed and its usefulness tested by Dr. Harold S. McNabb, Jr., Assistant Professor of Forest Pathology; Wallace E. Eslyn, Forest Pathology Graduate Student; Milo Voss, Health Physicist at the Institute for Atomic Research; and Gerald Daly, Junior Chemist at I.A.R.

"A rare metal, thulium, refined at the Ames Laboratory of the A. E.C. is the heart of the unit.

"Research is under the sponsorship of the Iowa State Conservation Commission and has been carried out at the College through the co-operation of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station and the I.A.R."

News of Iowa State, May 1956 issue

THE YOUTHFUL PROFESSION

While digging into many dusty records to compile a history of State Forestry, I have been often surprised at the course of forgotten events. But the most startling fact in my opinion was the youth of the first three State Foresters at their appointment. E. T. Allen was 29, G. B. Lull was 28, G. M. Homans 28. Undoubtedly the primary reason was the requirement that the position be filled by a trained forester. All had started early with the old U. S. Bureau of Forestry. Strangely, too, the very able Allen had never received any formal schooling.

C. R. Clar

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS GIVEN AT BAY AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The University of California Forestry Club made its contribution to Conservation Week by putting on conservation programs in the elementary schools. The programs were designed to give attending children a general understanding of conservation. Slides were shown to illustrate the relationships between forest fires, erosion, and floods. Each child received a good idea of what he can do personally to conserve our natural resources.

Demonstrations with slides and fire fighting equipment were most effective in holding the constant interest of the audience. Programs concluded with a question and answer period. Pine seedlings, grown by the Forestry Club, were given to those children desiring them to provide a living reminder of conservation and its meaning. Twelve schools were included in the demonstrations and 2,400 to 2,600 children attended. The Forestry Club plans to continue this project on a larger scale next year.

Charles H. Schaefer
University of California Forestry Club

DR. EDWARD A. COLEMAN

We were grieved to learn of the sudden and untimely death of "Ted" Coleman, a true forester and a fine technician. His death interrupted a fine and useful career, for "Ted" was making valuable and continuous contributions to the watershed management problem. A problem of continuing seriousness not only in California, but throughout the nation.

Dr. Coleman was in charge of watershed management research at the California Forest and Range Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service from 1949 until his death at 45 on March 20. He was a graduate of the University of California and for more than 20 years had conducted research on ways to improve the yield of water from forest and range lands.

Because of the esteem in which Dr. Coleman was held, his friends and co-workers have set up a memorial fund to aid in training young men for research in watershed management and related sciences. It is hoped this will ultimately be a graduate scholarship for young scientists.

Donations to the "Edward A. Coleman Memorial Fund" may be sent c/o O.C. Little, Cashier, Bank of America, P. O. Box 242, Berkeley, California.

DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TIMBER AND LUMBER?

"The great TIMBER lands were being depleted, and LUMBER was accordingly soaring in price."

TIMBER and LUMBER are in much usage synonymous, but TIMBER is the more general word meaning wood suitable for building whether standing in the forest or piled in the yard, and, specifically, a squared and perhaps dressed piece of wood ready for use in construction work or already in place. A woodland is a timberland. LUMBER applies more particularly to timber that is sawed and sized into boards and planks and ready for the market; you speak of a lumber yard, of lumber prices, of lumber cargo. In England, however, TIMBER is used for sawed lumber of about five inches thick and six inches wide, and this word is also used in a special sense in

reference to the beams that constitute the framework of a wooden ship as well as to a wooden building.

In high seas the timbers of a ship are said to shiver, that is, creak and strain, and the same expression is used of a wooden building that swerves in a storm. But the expression "shiver my timbers" belongs to cricket, referring to scattering or strewing wickets for which TIMBERS is a slang substitute. The expression is also seaman's slang or mock oath. TIMBER derivatively suggests straight and proper; it is Anglo-Saxon for wood. But as wood out of which things are made gradually took on the meaning of quality of material, TIMBER early in its career was expanded to include the figurative idea of merit as applied to men, women, and things. The timber of literature is, thus, its quality, of man his character, and so on.

Ben Johnson's title TIMBER for brief statements and essays on men and things is figurative in this sense. But TIMBRE is Old French (Latin tympanum) originally meaning a bell to be struck with a hammer, and now the quality of tone or sound, or resonance. LUMBER once meant old discarded household goods, and the word is usually set down as a corruption of LOMBARD (the Lombards were the world-famous pawnbrokers who stored all sorts and conditions of articles in a rear room which came to be known as the Lombard room, and later as the lumber room). In provincial parts today a garret may be referred to as a LUMBER ROOM and its contents as lumber. But the verb LUMBER meaning to move clumsily and noisily may be Middle English Lomere or Anglo-Saxon lama, whence lame. One "specialist" suggest that in this usage it may be echoic, based upon THUNDER, children once upon a time being told by their elders that thunder is caused by God's rearranging planks in reconstruction of the heavens! STUMPAGE sometimes denotes standing timber with particular reference to its sales price or value; it may refer to the price itself as well as to the tax levied by amount and price; and it may pertain to the "forest" of stumps left standing after trees are cut---the lower parts of tree trunks.

The word STUMP itself is not a beautiful word to either eye or ear. But it is a picturesque one from the point of view of meaning. It is fairly constant---Icelandic STUMPR, Dutch STOMP, German STUMPF, Middle English STOMPE---and it may be cognate with STAMP and stub. Junius naively thought it the base of STUMBLE "because Stumble once meant to strike or trip against a stump."

No matter. A stump is indigenous to land that is being settled; it is at once a pulpit and a "soapbox"; it is similarly and at once an obstruction and a vantage point; it belongs by figurative extension to politics, to religion, to medicine, to sport, to practically every line of endeavor that is at all articulate. In slang usage your legs are called stumps; when you are stumped you are foiled or befuddled; you make a stump speech; you issue a stump (challenge) to someone; you somehow stump (hobble) to work after an accident; the stump of your broken tooth gives you pain. And so forth.

John B. Opdycke

ABOUT THE DIVISION

LEVI T. BURCHAM HAS A NEW TITLE

To the best of our knowledge, the Division of Forestry acquired its first Ph.D. on June 6, 1956, when Levi T. Burcham, Senior Forest Technician in

the Sacramento office, was awarded a doctor's degree at commencement exercises at the University of California at Berkeley. For his doctorate, Lee submitted a dissertation on the historical development of the range livestock industry in California. He had previously received a Master of Science degree from the University of Nebraska in 1950.

Born in North Carolina, Burcham attended high school in Maryland. After spending some time working at logging and sawmilling, he enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps in 1933 for a four-year hitch. Then he enrolled in the University of California School of Forestry graduating from there in 1941. He was employed as a range examiner for the Department of Interior for a short time when he re-entered the Marine Corps in early 1942. Lee served as a Captain in the South Pacific before being mustered out in late 1946. His service with the Division of Forestry dates back to January, 1947, when he was appointed as Assistant Forest Technician on the Mountain Home State Forest. In 1948 he moved to Sacramento as a Forest Technician in range management where he serves today as a Senior Forest Technician in charge of Division activities in range and watershed management and soil-vegetation surveys. Burcham has authored a number of technical articles and bulletins in his specialty field since being with the Division.

T. F. Arvola
Deputy State Forester

CALAVERAS COUNTY

Sulphur and molasses--some take it, others just come to Calaveras. Enjoying his new home is Assistant Ranger "Al" Munson, who came here from Yuba County. One of his first this-is-going-to-give-me-an-ulcer jobs was the supervision of the new Altaville Transport Shed. Everything went along fine and "Al" is happy about everything but the nomenclature--"Biggest Shed I ever saw" is the only comment he'll make on that. Shed or no shed it's a nice addition to our Altaville Station.

Wintering in Calaveras is John L. Morris, Forest FireFighter Foreman. We aren't advertising too loudly because someone might request his services, but he certainly does nice work on those maps.

Glad to be back from his "hitch" in the service is Hugh Martin, Forest Fire Truck Driver. He is now a very settled old married man and resides in Murphys.

We didn't write you before but we've had Assistant Ranger Peter Peterson for almost two years--he came down from Nevada County. There isn't much that "Pete" and his pipe don't know about Calaveras and its natives--we swear he gets that "purty" wave at the beauty shop along with all the latest gossip.

Recently passing out cigars was Harry C. Proctor who now has a daughter who was welcomed by a brother.

Assistant Ranger Woods, who has been quite ill, appears to be much improved. Rumor has it that he may permanently retire from State service. We certainly miss him around here. "Woody" and Mrs. Woods now reside at Walnut Creek where they have just purchased a new home.

Training schools have held the spot light on each Wednesday and the plans are for continuance of this program. No truant officer needed here--the boys are very co-operative.

On February 29 Assistant Ranger Jackson gave instructions on Beginners in Telephone Line Maintenance. Jack took his students through actual demonstrations and, although we were prepared for the slivers, no one slipped down the pole. After the boys received their diplomas here, Dispatcher "Chuck" Toy took over with the advanced school on telephone line maintenance which included a brief going-over of the intricate make-up of the various instruments.

On March 7 and 8, Technicians R. Burns, Jim Greig and H. Meyer presented a school on Forest Practice and Farm Forestry for our administrative personnel. The boys all agreed this was a very interesting session--especially the field trip.

On March 21, school was called in by Associate Ranger Walter Mueller with movies and a lecture on Prevention of Injury and Accidents. Hey, "Walt", how do you prevent a wood tick from biting you? At this school, Preventative Maintenance of Automotive Equipment was also covered.

On March 28, Assistant Ranger "Pete" Peterson was the recipient of the shiney red apples for holding school on Seasonal Fire Control Training. Coincidentally the fire horn sounded off because of a fire and there was "Pete" with a black-board and no students. Nothing like actual experience along with your training school "Pete".

For the past four months a half day each month has been devoted to a school entitled "In-Service Training" with instructors from both CDC and CDF. Out of the regular routine, it proved very interesting to CDF personnel. This school is important in that we now have a CDC Honor Camp established here in Calaveras. The plans are for permanent resident at a site near Vallecito, but at present the CDC are housed at our Altaville Station.

Mary K. Serra
Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk

DISTRICT III HEADQUARTERS

Forest Technician Harvey A. Striplin Jr. and Assistant Forest Technician James E. Greig of the District staff have announced their resignations from the Division effective May 1, 1956. Striplin and Greig have announced that together they will establish a consulting forestry business with offices in Sacramento under the name Cal-Pacific Forest Consultants.

Louis Gerlinger
Fire Prevention Officer

KINGS COUNTY

On March 2, 1956, Assistant State Forest Ranger N. O. Stephens and wife Carline and son Jimmy arrived at Headquarters Station Hanford, bag and baggage. "Steve" as previously reported moved from Coarsegold district in Madera County to assist Associate Ranger Lindley in Kings County. Strange faces, names and places are slowly dropping into place. During the past week we tested all pumpers in Kings County, giving the writer a quick meeting of most drivers and good opportunity to familiarize himself with the various pieces of equipment. Kings County has its higher elevation, so when "we" of the mountains wish to return to the hills we can. It is good to be back with "Curt" and Edra.

Mr. John Gardner, fire truck driver at Corcoran is sporting a new plaster cast on his right forearm and hand, seems one of the doors on his new fire truck was tricky and he chipped a bone in the heel of his hand while closing the door. Doesn't seem to bother his ability to use a hose line one bit.

Curt Lindley and I attended the monthly meeting of the San Joaquin Valley Firemen's Association at Corcoran March 14th and we enjoyed the meeting very much. At the end of the meeting Gene Martin, Assistant Ranger from the Westside Fire District, who was on his way home from the meeting, returned to the meeting and reported a garage fire out of Corcoran a short ways. Because of late leavers a very good and sizeable turnout of volunteers put out the fire in good form. Seems the Corcoran Volunteer Fire Department will go all out for entertaining visiting firemen.

Mr. Frank Young of the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific is making a study of Kings County fire protection facilities at the present time. It is hoped the results of his findings will show up in the form of lower insurance rates.

N. O. Stephens
Assistant State Forest Ranger

Spring socials were in style in Kings County during April. Over 150 people attended an anniversary groundup at the Kit Carson Fire Control Station just east of Hanford on April 20th. Colored movies of a tour of Italy highlighted the evening only to be topped off with a wonderful raffle of camping goods and tables full of food.

The Lemore Legion Hall took quite a pounding April 28th when the Hall's Corner Volunteers held a fund raising rock and roll dance there.

One of our new drivers located at Stratford pulled a leave and returned a married man. More power to you Milton, we always need new fire fighters.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

TULARE COUNTY

During the month of March in Tulare County, much of our efforts have been in conservation work; 89 programs at schools throughout the county, with 8,397 school children attending. Several programs before PTA, Scout troops and numerous other organizations.

Of course we continue to conduct conservation and fire prevention throughout the year, with special efforts in Conservation and Fire Prevention Weeks.

Orval Schonher, Dispatcher, CSEA Chapter #80, Richard Miralles, ASFR, CSEA Chapter 113 both past presidents, were delegates to the General Council in Sacramento held in February. We feel these men have done a fine job in CSEA work in their respective chapters, (hats off to you guys for a fine job). A short report on the California Forestry Employees' Association, District IV. At our Board of Director's meeting to be held in April, plans are to have a representative from Fish & Game Employees' Association and California Highway Patrol Association to discuss their activity in these employee organizations. Also to be heard is a committee report relative to the possibility of including some type of welfare

benefit for members.

We would like to welcome Frank Johnson, Forest Fire Truck Driver, San Luis Obispo County and Clyde Bigham, Monterey County, who came to use from the rehire departmental list. We hope these men will be happy in their new assignments in Schedule A, Tulare County.

On April 4th Associate Ranger John Rosar returned from Davis quite enthused about a Defensive Driving Course in which he had participated. Three days later, he showed up with his head swathed in bandages under which the doctor has used five stitches to close a wound in his forehead. The story goes that he ran into an open metal sash window which was protruding into the yard as he was walking by. Wonder if he was so enthused thinking about his driving course that he didn't see the window? Or perhaps he took the wrong course, maybe it should have been a Defensive Walking Course.

Continued interest is reflected in the use of pyrotechnics in Range Improvement work in Tulare County by the fact that the County Range Improvement Association requested Ralph Fenner to speak before them at their last meeting. Ralph presented an excellent talk which was considered very beneficial whether or not pyrotechnics are used. He did a very excellent job of disseminating the results of experiments for the past several years which should be of much help to the ranchers in preparing their ignition plans.

Euel W. Goldsmith
Assistant State Forest Ranger

MONTEREY COUNTY

On February 1, 1956, an apple cold storage warehouse caught fire from an undertermined origin. Our Castroville crew responded as did the City of Watsonville, City of Aromas, and the Corralitos Forestry crew. When they arrived at the scene of the fire they found one building completely engulfed in flames and two very large storage buildings threatened. The fire fighting crews were successful in confining the fire to two of the buildings and completely saving the third one, which was very difficult to do because of the close proximity of the buildings. One storage building which was completely lost contained 55,000 boxes of apples. The fire loss was estimated at \$175,000. The value of the building saved was \$125,000. The compressor units which cooled the cold storage buildings were put out of operation at the start of the fire but were put back into operation before the fire was controlled in order to keep the apples stored in the adjoining building from spoiling. Also a crane and clam shell were put into operation to remove portions of the stored apples from the walls of the adjoining building so that the fire could be completely extinguished. This was an extremely difficult undertaking because the apples were stored in the same manner in which baled hay is stored. Another problem that made the job difficult was that the buildings were double walled and insulated and also double roofed and insulated. Also, one building was on piers about two feet high, and one was completely iron-clad. Due to the type of structures it was extremely difficult to keep the fire from spreading, but the crews managed to prevent a complete loss in the second building and none of the apples in the second storage building were damaged.

The Forestry crews took over after the initial attack and spent three nights and two days in suppressing the fire. The fire could not be completely

extinguished until removal of all the damaged apples which took about one week.

Maude Campbell, Intermediate Stenographer-Clerk, at the Carmel Hill Forestry Station was honored at a dinner on Mary 3, 1956, at Monterey. District V personnel were invited to partake in a delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings. After dinner, retired Deputy Strickland gave a resume of Miss Campbell's work with the different phases of forestry. State Forest Ranger Austin and Assistant State Forest Ranger McAuley presented Miss Campbell with a piece of luggage as a parting gift from the guests. We will all miss Maude's voice over the radio and her pleasant conversation at the station. All the luck to her in the coming years.

Maude retired from State Service on March 31.

Sarah Mae Burkman
Intermediate Typist Clerk

POSTER CONTESTS - SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

Ranger Fenlon just advised that the poster contest which was held in the San Diego City Schools, through the co-operation of the San Diego City School Department with the Division of Forestry, has been completed. There were eighty paintings or posters submitted from three schools in San Diego City: Dana Junior High School, Pacific Beach Junior High School, and Montgomery Junior High School. It was the desire of the City School System to hold the contest to the students of the Seventh Grade in the schools mentioned.

The San Diego Citizens Study Group Committee donated an oil painting which was awarded to the student that had prepared what was judged to be the most outstanding poster on the subject of fire prevention and conservation. In addition, awards of merit were made to the next three posters chosen--one from each school. Honorable mention certificates were awarded to fourteen students for the posters they had prepared that were considered to be worthy of recognition. The awards were made at the Pacific Beach School Assembly on March 14; and the school authorities, along with the students, expressed a great deal of interest in the contest. School authorities have indicated that it is their desire to have this program carried out again next year in the city schools.

Eugene Bertsch
Assistant Deputy State Forester

DISTRICT VI

Personnel shifts seem to be the order lately so we'll continue our last report. Drifting northward but still far short of his old "Lake County" is the former Assistant Ranger Jim Davis of San Diego County, now Associate Ranger in San Bernardino County. Jim fills the spot vacated by Associate Tom Bryan, now back in his old District III as Associate in that Headquarters.

Reporting for duty at District Headquarters on April 2nd was Assistant Deputy Gene Bertsch after an absence since early September. As you probably know, he had to settle a little dispute with his heart. It's sure good to have him back in the saddle.

Recent vacationers down this way were Foreman Cy Holmes and Assistant Deputy Emery Sloat, both of District I Headquarters. They traded us some of their moss for some of our dust.

Recently we got a little moisture added to the dust. Second good rain of the season. One in January and one in April. Now we're set for the fire season.

Douglas Glenn, Dispatcher

CAMP RAINBOW

Congratulations are in order for Paul D. Lobo who was appointed to Forestry Work Project Foreman at this camp. We all wish him the best of luck in his new position.

Joe Murphy, Project Foreman of this camp did it again. Another strapping boy - this makes 5 boys and 2 girls for Murphy. He is so used to it now that he forgot to tell us his wife was going to have another. Congratulations Murf for keeping up the population.

The work projects for this camp are all going along nicely. Crew #1 has been building a spur road in Riverside County from Highway 71 to Gavilan Mountain. It is all roughed in and culverts are being installed at present. Crew #2 is still working in Orange County on these seemingly endless truck trails and spur roads. Crew #3 is reconstructing the Valley Center phone line where it was destroyed by the Wolford Fire last year.

Rainbow had it's first near Class E fire this year on March 8th at Pine Hills near Julian. A lot of inexperienced men had a taste of what is ahead of them this year.

Camp Rainbow's motto - Give Us Men To Match Our Mountains.

E. R. Brown
Project Foreman

State of California

DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

NEWS LETTER

KEEP CALIFORNIA GREEN
AND GROW A GOOD FOREST

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DIVISION OF FORESTRY

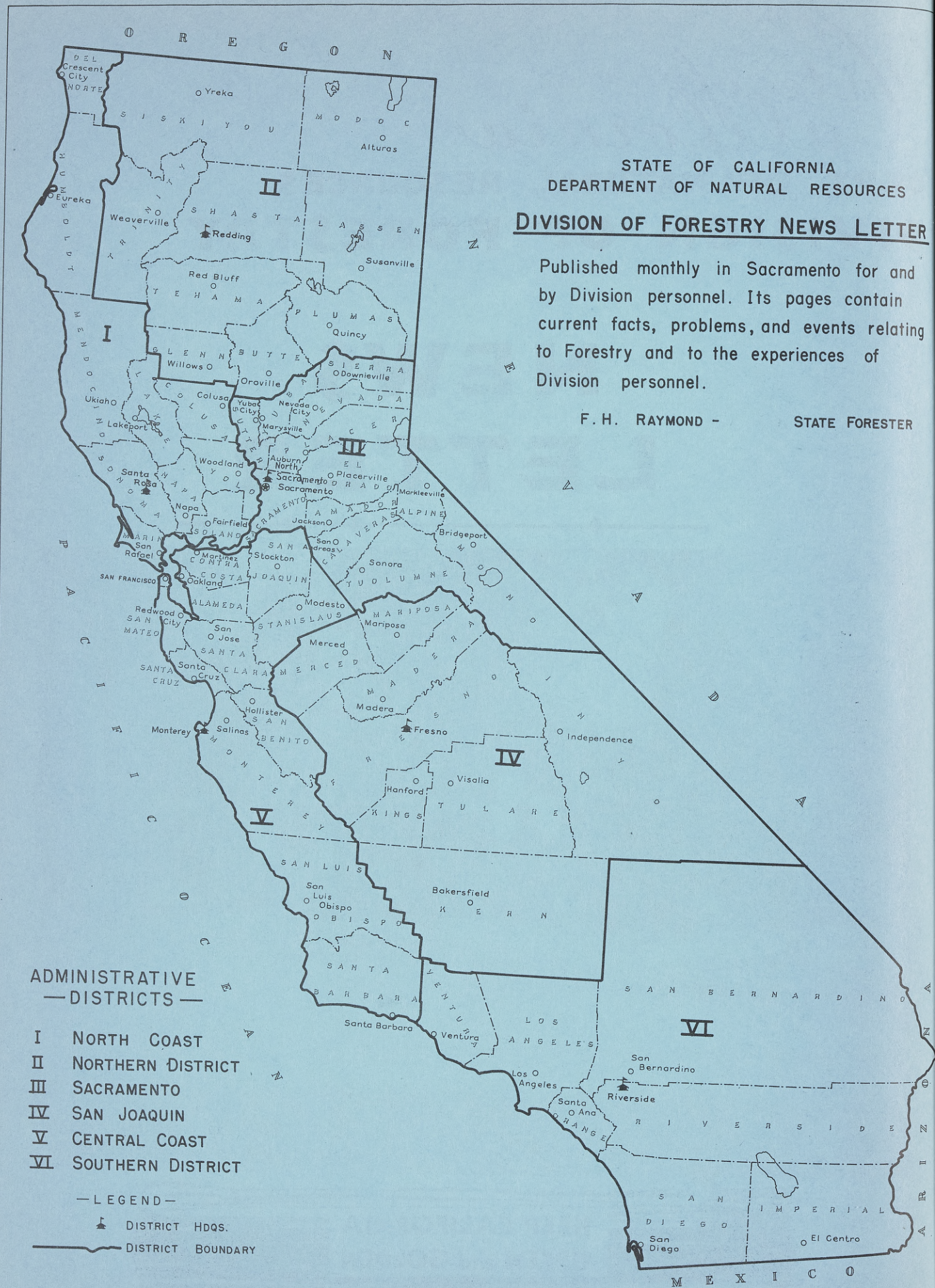
NEWS LETTER



Vol. 16 No. 6-7 & 8
June - July & August 1956



KEEP CALIFORNIA
GREEN and GOLDEN



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY NEWS LETTER

Published monthly in Sacramento for and by Division personnel. Its pages contain current facts, problems, and events relating to Forestry and to the experiences of Division personnel.

F. H. RAYMOND - STATE FORESTER

MAY ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Fire weather for the most part of the month remained fairly normal. Moderate Santa Ana conditions were experienced in Southern California for a short period, but no serious fires developed. A heavy lightning storm crossed the northern half of the state, but was also accompanied by moderate to heavy rain.

Over-all fire incidence and acres burned were a little below normal.

With the completion of the San Bernardino National Forest pilot study, work on the remaining National Forests has been intensified. The ultimate aim is to develop a fire plan for the private lands within the National Forest boundaries which will provide a measure of protection comparable to like areas under direct state protection. All forests are also being scrutinized for possible minor boundary adjustments where such areas can be absorbed into the state protection system without additional expenditure of funds for personnel, equipment, or capital outlay.

A block of new fire trucks are nearing completion at the contract vendor's shop and will be ready for delivery to the field shortly.

New four-wheel drive vehicles, now commercially available, were tested on the Division's test course. Although routine in nature, these tests with varying loads, provide data for the establishment of performance standards. These standards then form the basis for specifications for purchase of fire fighting apparatus to meet the actual demands of the job.

FOREST AND RANGE MANAGEMENT: STATE FORESTS - JACKSON STATE FOREST - The Northern California section of the Society of American Foresters met in Fort Bragg on June 1st and held its annual spring field trip on the Jackson State Forest the following day. Some 185 public and private foresters from northern and central California were shown the accomplishments the Division of Forestry has made on this demonstration forest since its acquisition. The group toured the Parlin Fork nursery where many seedlings are raised and sold each year for reforestation, erosion control, and windbreak purposes under the Division's nursery program. The foresters visited the Frazier experimental plantation where a forest burn was planted in 1951 and 1952 with different kinds of trees. Everyone was amazed at the spectacular growth made by the Monterey pine which has been able to outgrow the native brush. Some Monterey pine trees planted as seedlings in 1951 are now 4 inches in diameter and 20 feet or more in height. Society members visited the current timber sale area on the Forest and recent sale areas to see the manner in which the Division is harvesting its old-growth timber through timber sales and the management practices being followed to convert these stands by selective cutting into a state of maximum production to attain sustained yield.

LATOUR STATE FOREST: A new high was reached for stumpage on State Forest timber sales when sealed bids were opened in Redding on June 7, 1956, for some 3,494,000 board feet of pine and fir timber on 214 acres of the Latour State Forest. Competition was keen. The sale was awarded to Redding Pine Mills, Inc., of Redding, who bid per thousand board feet: \$51.65 for sugar pine, ponderosa pine, and Jeffrey pine; \$18.35 for white fir and red fir; \$15.00 for Douglas fir and lodgepole pine; and \$7.00 for incense cedar. The purchaser plans to begin logging about the middle of July and has until November 30, 1956, to cut and remove the marked timber. This sale should bring a return in revenue to the state of over \$111,000.

MOUNTAIN HOME STATE FOREST: One thousand two-year old Jeffrey pine and ponderosa pine trees were planted on Mountain Home State Forest in understocked areas and interplanted on previous planting sites. Varying degrees of survival are now indicated from direct spot seeding done last fall where the seed spots were covered with protective wire screens. In some areas the screens have been tipped over by rodents and the seeds removed. In other areas the seeds have germinated and the young sugar pines appear healthy at this time.

Recently Division personnel met with John Ludeman of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the Mountain Home State Forest to review the results of planting and seeding experiments on this Forest over the past few years.

Plans have been made by the Division in co-operation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to undertake some regeneration experiments on the Mountain Home State Forest this fall to test the possibilities of scattering endrin treated seed immediately prior to natural seed fall to see if rodents can be educated to leave natural seed alone. Other experiments are contemplated to spot seed areas with untreated seed and endrin treated seed with and without poisoning the area for rodents prior to planting for comparative purposes.

NURSERY: During April and May the tree nurseries operated in conjunction with the Parlin Fork Honor Camp, the Magalia Honor Camp, and the Ben Lomond California Youth Authority Forestry Work Camp were sown. It is anticipated that this sowing will yield some 5 million seedlings for planting purposes in the 1957-58 season. To combat depredation of seeds and germinating seedlings, with the co-operation of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, some of the tree seed was treated with chemical repellants.

The selling season for planting stock from the Division nurseries closed in late May. Of the 1.8 million trees available for distribution last fall, over 1.4 million trees were sold. Except principally for the pines, most species were completely sold out. A large portion of the excess pines were transplanted at the Magalia nursery. These will produce three-year old transplant stock for the next season.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Range Improvement personnel from Sacramento and Riverside participated in the Southland Range and Watershed Tour in San Diego County on May 2 and 3, 1956. This tour, sponsored by the Agricultural Extension Service, demonstrated results obtained from seedings of perennial range plants on areas treated up to six years previously.

On May 17, 1956, members of the Board of Forestry participated in a tour of portions of Mariposa and Tuolumne Counties, conducted jointly by the North Tuolumne Range Improvement Association and the Groveland-Coulterville Range Improvement Association. Results of brush clearing and reseeding on a variety of the sites typical of this region were illustrated by the several localities visited.

SOIL-VEGETATION SURVEY: During the latter part of May samples of three soils in Humboldt County were collected for laboratory testing and for growth tests using range plants. The Division of Forestry participated in the evaluation of plant cover and range conditions on the sites where these samples were collected. Members of the staff of the Soil-Vegetation Survey devoted a considerable amount of attention to soil identification problems during this time; new soils are being discovered as the survey of Humboldt County progresses, the characteristics of which

must be examined in considerable detail to fix the limits of their variations.

JUNE ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The weather remained fairly normal for the first two weeks of the month. On the 15th a storm front grazed Northern California and then swung northward bringing light rain across the entire northern part of the state. This storm was followed by several days of northerly winds with very high temperatures and low humidities which produced very hazardous fire conditions for the remainder of the month. The fire risks during this period were in the critical and extreme ranges.

The largest fire of the month was the 3,400 acre U.S. Forest Service - California Division of Forestry brush, grass, and woodland fire 25 miles northeast of Santa Maria in San Luis Obispo County. It started June 26 and was controlled the evening of June 30. The next three largest fires during the month were as follows:

1. Tulare County - 200 acres of grass.
2. Stanislaus County - 145 acres of woodland and grass.
3. Glenn County - 90 acres of woodland.

Studies were completed to determine logical areas within the pay protection boundaries of the National Forests that would fall into the minor boundary change classification. Minor boundary changes are defined as those areas that are contiguous to areas which are directly protected by the state and are of such size and nature that they can be absorbed into the existing state protection system without any additional expenditures for personnel, equipment, or capital outlay.

During the month inter-agency conferences were held at Redding and Fresno with representatives of the District offices, Forest Supervisors, Sacramento, and Regional offices for the purpose of determining and settling minor boundary adjustments.

As a result of these two conferences, approximately 100,000 acres have been transferred from U. S. Forest Service to state direct protection.

Two meetings were also held between representatives of the Sacramento staff and Regional office personnel for the purpose of discussing and reaching mutual understanding and agreement on the objectives of the fire plan for the private lands inside the boundaries of the National Forests.

The co-operative project with the U. S. Weather Bureau, U. S. Forest Service, California Forest and Range Experiment Station to produce a joint fire danger rating system reached the field/trial stage. Intensive research was conducted during the fall and winter months to evaluate all systems now in use, derive the best qualities from each, and develop a practical system for rating fire danger that will be used by all agencies. Training sessions were held for field personnel and the pilot project will be started in the Shasta area on July 1. Following this season's trial, such modification or adjustment as may be necessary will be made. It is anticipated that the completed system will be ready for state-wide use next year.

FOREST AND RANGE MANAGEMENT: FOREST PRACTICE: The Forest Practice Committee of the South Sierra Pine Forest District made a field tour of logging

operations in the Central Sierras on June 25 and 26, 1956, to see the application of the Forest Practice Rules on the ground. Members of the industry and Division personnel participated in this field trip.

A brief report was made by the State Forester to the State Board of Forestry on June 29, 1956, of the sequence of events occurring in the South Sierra Pine Forest District indicating that the Forest Practice Rules for that District need consideration of amendment to meet conditions peculiar to Southern California. Testimony was also made to the Board by representatives from Southern California. Following this the State Board of Forestry passed a resolution recognizing this situation and requested the South Sierra Forest Practice Committee to officially review the problem, hold hearings, and to present its recommendations to the State Board of Forestry in accordance with Section 4849 of the Public Resources Code.

BLISTER RUST CONTROL: The State Board of Forestry at its regular meeting in Sacramento on June 29, 1956, approved a policy for the control of white pine blister rust on state and private lands for the next five years subject to review by the Board of Forestry at its discretion. The present policy was extended for another five years.

The essential features of this policy are:

1. State shall assume full cost of control on state-owned lands including surveys, leadership, technical supervision, method development, and disease investigations.
2. State ratio of expenditure to other co-operators for the protection of privately owned land shall not exceed 50% of the total costs including surveys, leadership, technical supervision, method development, and disease investigation.
3. The manner of control shall follow the standards approved by the State Forester based on findings and recommendations of qualified control and research agencies dealing with this problem.
4. It is recommended that the private landowner in recognition of the benefits resulting from control of blister rust be encouraged to contribute not less than 25% of actual field control costs on his land.

A training school on Blister Rust Control was conducted by the Blister Rust Control Unit of the U. S. Forest Service at Redding. Personnel from Division of Forestry attended this meeting. The school consisted of inspecting rust infected areas, eradication of host plants (gooseberry) and methods used in checking the work accomplished by contractors who are doing the eradication work. Areas were also inspected where experimental pruning and removal of infected sugar pine trees was being done. The areas visited were on private and federally owned lands in Shasta and Siskiyou Counties.

INSECT CONTROL: A new forest insect zone of infestation involving the Douglas fir tussock moth which is defoliating white fir in the counties of Calaveras, Tuolumne, Alpine, and Mariposa was approved by the State Board of Forestry at its regular meeting in Sacramento on June 29th. The new zone will be called the Stanislaus Zone of Infestation and involves 842,000 acres. The present

infestation is located in seven widely dispersed areas involving 10,000 acres. The infested areas will be sprayed from the air with DDT in an oil solution. The work will be done by the U. S. Forest Service on both public and private lands under agreement with the state.

SERVICE FORESTRY: The Small Woodlands Council composed of public and private foresters of which the Division is a member conducted a one-day field trip in the Placerville area in El Dorado County. The areas visited involved Christmas tree plantations, reforestation, and pruning and thinnings of small woodlots. A residence was visited that was built from timber grown and sawed by the owner into lumber. A short business meeting held at the Mount Danaher Forest Fire Station included a discussion of Christmas tree plantations and new guide sheets.

Two new guide sheets were released by the Small Woodlands Council to assist small timber landowners in measuring forest products and in recognizing forest diseases.

BIGGEST JEFFREY PINE FOUND IN CALIFORNIA

Chalk up another record for California trees.

The largest Jeffrey pine ever measured has been found in the recreation area of Los Padres National Forest, 15 miles northwest of Frazier Park.

Discoverer was Fire Guard James Whitner, a 30-year veteran of the U. S. Forest Service.

He noted the giant tree on an inspection trip and measured it - 151 feet tall, 19 feet 10 inches in circumference and a spread of 40 feet.

District Ranger Thomas A. Neff sent the measurements to Forest Service headquarters in Washington, D.C. Back came word that it was a new record.

Los Angeles Times
8-10-56

OLD RANGERS, ATTENTION

We are informed that retired Ranger H. E. Wyman, now a resident of Napa, has been engaged as a public greeter at one of the famous wineries in the Napa Valley. Happy Days, Hi, old man!

C. R. Clar

PERSONNEL CHANGES SINCE MARCH, 1956

District I: Raymond Banks, Associate Ranger, transferred from Riverside County to District I headquarters.

Robert Maclean appointed Senior Forest Technician.

Edward Martin and Geoffrey Snow appointed Forest Technicians.

Theodore Waddell, Henry Land, Warren Shaw, and William Emrie appointed Assistant Forest Technicians.

William Jamieson transferred from San Diego County to Humboldt County.

Frank Quadro, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Humboldt County.

Jack King appointed as Assistant Ranger in Humboldt County.

Marion Steele, Associate Ranger, transferred to Lake County.

Richard Mirrales, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Lake County.

Edward Poe, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Mendocino County.

Gerald Tipton appointed as Assistant Ranger in Mendocino County.

Eugene Cummings, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Mendocino County.

Francis Gowell appointed State Forest Ranger I in charge of Napa County, replacing E. A. Erickson, who has retired.

George Rider appointed Assistant State Forest Ranger in Humboldt County.

District II: Donald Domke appointed Assistant Ranger in District II headquarters.

Clarence Mason appointed Assistant Forest Technician.

George Newton appointed Forestry Trainee.

Phillip W. Crosby, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Butte County; Earnest Brown reinstated as Assistant Ranger.

David Hall, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Lassen County.

Gilbert Belcher, Thomas Connors, and John Cross appointed Assistant Rangers in Shasta County.

Michael Schori transferred from Sacramento headquarters to Siskiyou County as State Forest Ranger I. Clinton B. Phillips transferred to Sacramento to replace Mr. Schori.

Assistant Ranger William Brownlee transferred to Tehama County.

District III: Walter Pease appointed Assistant Technician in District III.

Assistant Ranger Allan Munson transferred to Calaveras County; George Roberts appointed Assistant Ranger.

Charalton Thornton appointed Assistant Ranger in Eldorado County.

Allen Hayes, Associate Ranger, transferred back to Nevada County. Louis Gunter appointed Assistant Ranger.

Associate Ranger James Warford transferred to Placer County; Ralph Jenkins appointed Assistant Ranger.

District IV: Newey Stephens, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Kings County.

Jean Cousta, Assistant Ranger, transferred to Madera County.

Harold Stanley, Rex Coalson, and Cyrillis Holmes appointed Assistant Rangers in Tulare County.

District V: John Ritchey and Richard Bawcom appointed Forestry Trainees.

Jim Johnson appointed Assistant Ranger in Monterey County.

District VI: Leroy Neil, transferred to State Forest Ranger I and assigned to take charge of prison camp program in District VI.

Thomas Henson appointed Associate Ranger in Riverside County.

James Davis appointed Associate Ranger in San Bernardino County; Charles Ulrey also appointed Associate Ranger.

Charles Walter appointed Associate Ranger in San Diego County.

James Taylor appointed Assistant Ranger in San Diego County; Leroy Rockwell appointed Forest Fire Dispatcher.

Joseph Springer and Edward Schuckert appointed Forestry Work Project Supervisors in District VI.

Marlin Boucher appointed to Assistant Ranger in Riverside County.

Dorothy Lewis

JOHN L. SWANSON NOW DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PERSONNEL OFFICER

John L. Swanson has been appointed the departmental personnel officer, replacing Charles Lilley, who resigned July 1st to take a position as administrative assistant and personnel officer of the DeWitt State Hospital near Auburn, California.

Mr. Swanson comes to the Department from the State Personnel Board where he was an associate personnel analyst. Employees of the Department of Natural Resources are acquainted with Mr. Swanson because of his participation in a number of successful training sessions for supervisory personnel.

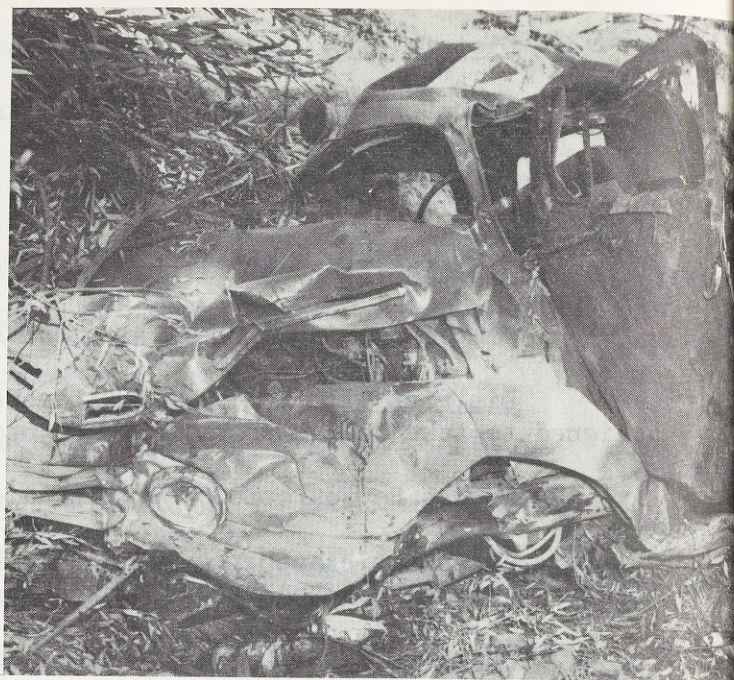
Mr. Swanson graduated from the University of California in 1938 with a B.S. Degree in Forestry. He obtained a general secondary teaching credential in 1949, following study at Fresno State College, and now is preparing for an M.A. Degree from Sacramento State College in the field of public personnel administration.

His experience includes four years with the U. S. Forest Service in blister rust control, fire prevention, assistant forest ranger, and timber management assistant; two years with the National Youth Administration as a forestry resident project supervisor; and six years of personnel work in recruitment, certification, classification, training, agency personnel work (Division of Highways) and general operations.

TRUCK CRASH KILLS 4 DIVISION EMPLOYEES

At 7:30 P.M. on the evening of August 27, 1956, a fire truck driven by Francis Hackett and carrying firefighters, Harry A. Rucker, Colin L. Haywood, and Jerome D. O'Leary, failed to negotiate a right-angle turn on a mountain road in Shasta County and crashed into an adjoining gully. All four Forestry employees were killed. The fire crew was returning to its station from a fire to which it responded about 3:00 A.M. that same day.

The cause of the accident is unknown. Excessive speed was probably the most important contributing factor. Inspecting officers have estimated the speed of the truck at 45 to 60 miles per hour at the point where it left the road. Twenty-five miles per hour was a safe speed for making the turn. A local resident observed the truck traveling at a high rate of speed shortly before the accident occurred. There were no skid marks on the pavement and there was no evidence there was any attempt to make the turn.



SAFETY BELT AND HARD HAT SAVES EMPLOYEE

David C. Saether, Forestry Equipment Operator of Sanger, while driving a Chevrolet pickup, was involved in a collision with a sedan at a road intersection in Fresno County. The driver of the sedan failed to make the stop at the intersection and the two vehicles collided broad side at an estimated speed of 40 miles an hour. The state vehicle rolled over twice and skidded approximately 150 feet. It was practically demolished and it will be sold for junk. Equipment Operator Saether was wearing a metal helmet and had his safety belt fastened at the time of the collision. He was not seriously injured and returned to duty within one week. Inspecting officers firmly believe that Saether is alive today because his safety belt was fastened and he was wearing a hard hat.



ABOUT THE DIVISION

DISTRICT I - BUCK ERICKSON RETIRES JUNE 30

Probably most of the readers of the News Letter have already heard that Ranger Buck Erickson of Napa County is retiring June 30, 1956. We have received several inquiries as to plans for a retirement party for Buck and wish to take this means to let his many friends throughout the state know that a party is planned for sometime this fall, probably in November. It was felt that because of fire season, many employees who would like to attend would find it impossible to get away at this time of year, and therefore, the post-fire season time was decided upon. As soon as a date is firmed up notice will be circularized to the various districts.

Buck started his Forestry career as a patrolman in Lake County on July 1, 1928. In 1929 he received an Assistant Ranger appointment in Lake County and in the fall of 1929 was appointed Ranger in Napa County where he has been assigned to the date of his retirement. The earlier years were seasonal employment with winter employment carried on through the County office of Weights and Measures. We strongly suspect that Buck accomplished more through the winter time for Forestry, those years, than he did for the office of Weights and Measures. He has seen the Division grow from infancy to that which it is today and may be truly proud of the part that he has played in its development. Through the expanding period Buck has maintained a down-to-the-earth, grass roots approach to problems which has been most effective in meeting the ever increasing challenge in Napa County. We won't say that we will miss him because we thoroughly hope and anticipate that he will not be a stranger to us and that he will drop in often if for no other reason than to heckle us.

Although we are not sure, we believe that Buck has established a record for tenure in his Napa County Ranger position of almost 27 years.

C. W. Fairbank, Deputy State Forester

DISTRICT II

Beautiful Lassen County was the destination this year for the annual field trip for the girls at District II Headquarters. We had the added pleasure of having two of the fellows volunteer to take us. (We are inclined to believe they generally draw straws and those who happen to be out in the field that day draw short straws.) Anyway, thank you, Ray Higgins and Jack Trapp! Not only did you offer to take us, but you planned a grand trip for us - a trip that was educational and also lots of fun from the time we started in the morning until you let us out at the Cypress Street door that evening.

We started the trip at an unearthly hour, 6:15 a.m., from the District Office on June 21st. After a good breakfast in Red Bluff we traveled Highway 36 through Mineral to Susanville. The scenery was beautiful and the weather perfect. It was still early when we passed through "deer country" and those watching and waiting for a glimpse of a deer or other wild animals were rewarded by seeing deer feeding in the meadows. (Billie insists she saw a Marmot too, but we don't know - all we saw were woodchucks.)

We were welcomed at the Lassen County Headquarters office (which is ideally located on a bluff overlooking the town of Susanville) by Amelia Mitchell

Merrill Swain, and Bill Reilley. While coffee was brewing, they took us on a tour of the office and grounds. One of the special points of interest in the office was the light-up map indicating state and federal lookouts. Bill Reilley showed us around the yard. He showed us where the fire tools are stored and told us a little about them and their use. This was of considerable interest especially to the newer girls who were making their first trip. By that time the warm fragrant smell of coffee was too much for us and we returned to the office and had some of the best coffee and doughnuts we have ever had.

Amelia Mitchell and Merrill Swain, acting as guides, accompanied us and we left the office and drove to Fredonyer Lookout. (We were able to drive to the lookout but agreed it would have been easier to fly.) This lookout is built on a rocky mountain top, as most lookouts are, but it was different than any lookout we had seen heretofore - instead of the cab being sixty feet up in the air, it was built flush with the ground. From our point of vantage we looked down on Eagle Lake and with the aid of binoculars we were able to see the Merrill Burn, the big Lassen County fire of 1955.

We are always intrigued by the lookouts - first of all, their location, of course; but the buildings too are of special interest. The cabs are glassed in and contain a bed, refrigerator, stove, telephone, and a sink with a handpump to bring up water for drinking. In the middle of the cab is a pedestal with an Osborne Fire Finder mounted on it where an azimuth reading is taken and telephoned to the dispatcher at the county headquarters office when a fire is spotted.

There is always a visitor's register to sign too and after all had signed we climbed back into our cars and traveled by way of "Swain's Boulevard" to Eagle Lake Forest Fire Station and dinner. The road took us through the Merrill burn and we were able to observe the damage done by the fire. We were interested to learn that when salvaging trees in a bad burn they mark the trees that are to be left rather than the trees to be cut.

It was 3 o'clock when we drove into the yard at Eagle Lake. Food at last and what a repast! We nominate Mrs. Haley as No. 1 cook of the year. After dinner we gathered rare shells from this inland lake and tried to get a close look at the fish which are reputed to be distinctive in type and found only in Eagle Lake. Inasmuch as Amelia had already seen the fish and collected shells she took advantage of the opportunity to look for arrow heads. (She was wearing earrings and a pendant made from matched arrowheads found on the shore of Eagle Lake.)

By this time it was getting late and we were a long way from home so we said goodbye to Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Swain and thanked them for their hospitality and headed home by way of Burney. We had had a long day and a pleasant one and the singing that filled the cars on the way home was a fitting climax. Everyone contributed. Ray said the group in his car knew the first line of more songs than he had ever heard. Those riding in Jack's car will testify that his baritone is pleasing to the ear - but the real highlight of the songfest was Billie's rendition of old Western Ballads.

One by one the songsters ran out of voice and quiet reigned. Redding was not too far away and the clock was moving along toward 8:30 when we said good night and "best trip ever."

Thank you Mr. Grogan and Mr. Kaufner for another swell field trip!

District II

YUBA COUNTY NEWS

The County-wide training school was held the mornings of June 25, 26, and 27 at the Dobbins Forest Fire Station. The fire camp was set up to orient the personnel with the duties and procedures connected with the camp and was used to feed the men the noon meal before they were sent back to their respective camps. This is the first time the fire camp has been included in the school and was the first time the portable kitchen had been used since 1948.

On the 27th the group met at Lake Francis, just South of Dobbins, where the group was instructed in the use of injectors, the Pacific Marine pump and canvas tanks. Later in the morning hose lay competition was held with the Smartville CYA pumper crew getting the best time and the Loma Rica crew one second behind. The school was very successful as to material covered and gave the personnel a chance to meet each other. During this school we kept our fingers crossed, the days being very hot. No fires, however.

Forest Technician Charlie Carlson provided some slides illustrating the do's and don'ts of fire fighting. The colored slides were drawn by an artist of the Iron Mine CDC Camp.

Landscaping around our Brownsville and Loma Rica stations is almost complete. The latter is our newest station and all personnel are quite proud of it. Don Bullard, FTD last year, is Foreman at Loma Rica. Bob Thompson is Foreman at Brownsville and Jim Davis is the FTD. Carroll Beavers, a transfer from District IV, is Foreman at our Dobbins station, Bob Saylor is the new FTD, and Bob Walton is FEO there. Foremen at Smartville are Curt Johnson and Ken Herrell with Bill Sanders as FTD. Bill McLeod, who worked in Butte County a few years ago, is our new FEO at Marysville Headquarters. Holding down the Headquarters Foreman assignment in his usual capable manner is Al Paloska.

Assistant Ranger Green has just returned from the sick list and is still on light duty. Assistant Ranger Al Stanley has moved back to Dobbins to replace Al Munson who is now in Calaveras County.

Mrs. Ardelle McDonald, a native of Colorado, recently joined the staff here at our headquarters as Clerk. John Etherton, employed for four summers in Monterey County has also joined our headquarters staff. Dispatcher Vern Cassell and wife, Viva, welcomed a daughter to the family fold late in June - Karen Kay joins brother Keith.

Vincent Mires is again our regular Lookout atop Oregon Peak. He tried working for Division of Highways last winter at the snow removal headquarters at Emigrant Gap in the Donner Summit area, but the snowdrifts finally bested him and he retreated to warmer climes to prepare for his return to Yuba in May.

H. P. Reinecker
State Forest Ranger

BIG PUMPING JOB

Pumping 84,000 gallons of brush-killer spray is one of the projects recently completed on the Mountain Home State Forest. It was a co-operative project. The U. S. Forest Service furnished the supervision and a spray rig

with 3,800 feet of rubber hose and the Division of Forestry supplied a 6-man CDC Crew for nozzlemen.

The job was part of the program to protect the sugar pine stands on the State Forest from the White Pine Blister Rust. It seems this disease loves variety and has to keep jumping back and forth from pine tree to gooseberry bush in order to reproduce itself. Therefore, if we kill the gooseberries, it has no place to jump and dies out. And Mountain Home, according to Blister Rust specialists has the "mostest of the bestest" gooseberry bushes per acre of any place in California.

The job at Mountain Home will continue for many years. On most areas the wild gooseberries and currants (*Ribes* Sp.) are sparse enough that hand digging crews can eradicate them, but on about 100 acres power-spraying with 2-4, d is more efficient than hand digging; hence the 84,000 gallon spray job.

Incidentally, the Forest Service Supervisor on the job stated that they had never had a more efficient crew than the CDC inmates from the Mountain Home Honor Camp, although they usually operate with hired labor.

Floyd L. Otter
Forest Technician

KINGS COUNTY

Personnel changes again this year top the Kings County August news. John Gardner who has been fire truck driver at Corcoran for the past 6 years resigned to take employment elsewhere. Francis Hames has been transferred from the Avenal station to Corcoran to fill the vacancy. Milton Clark is being transferred to Avenal from the Stratford station and Ronald Filippi has been employed to fill the vacancy at Stratford.

July in Kings County has kept personnel and equipment on the jump. Many acres of grain has been harvested with a minimum loss in dollars, although we have had a much larger loss this year than for the past five-year period.

A new fire fighter has been added to the family of Mr. and Mrs. James Kirklin, Jr., a county fire truck driver, mother and son doing fine.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT VI

Paper work is the priority item of late. The 1956 Fire Plan, of course, complicated by the tremendous population build-up in our Zone 1 and 2 land leads the parade. Right behind though are the County Schedule "A" Agreements preparation. Due to this source, Riverside County has just added two large fire trucks, six station radio transmitter-receivers, and one new fire station at Oasis. From County money, San Diego also sports a new nurse tanker and Orange two new fire trucks.

Personnel shifts have seen T. D. James Hallam go to Mendocino County as foreman, T. D. Thomas Stein of Riverside County go up to foreman in Beaumont Station, F.W.P.F. Gaylord Scott go from Morena to District III and Foreman James Taylor go up to Assistant Ranger in San Diego County. Congratulations to all.

Speaking of people, the Beaumont Lions Club gave our Oak Glen CDC Camp inmates a set of Encyclopedia Britannica. We hope the scenery pictures do not stimulate their travel ideas.

Water is the missing element in our Ramona Station well. The test hole had water, but when we drilled a full size well beside it several months later, all we got was 575 feet of dry earth. We surely need Feather River water down here as things are drying up fast!

Well, it sort of looks like we may be able to throw away our hiking boots in the not too distant future. At a recent meeting of the Southern California Forest and Firewardens' Convention, we had the pleasure of viewing demonstration films of a one-man helicopter. This helicopter is jet propelled.

There is a jet orifice on the tip of each vane, and has a climbing speed of 2000 feet per minute. It is very light in weight and has a top speed of approximately 75 miles per hour. All of this, combined with wonderful maneuverability, makes it look as if it might be adaptable to the work in the Division.

Personnel changes seem to continue to be more frequent than the passage of the winds so we'll continue where we left off for April and May, altho that missed that issue and is probably in this issue. Guess some of those transferees have probably moved again by now. Here's our latest.

Resigned for greener places or just more "green": FWPF Joe Smith, Robert Fogleman, Kenneth Dittus and Kenneth King. Some of the "more green" was available in the expanding Riverside City Fire Department. After CDF gave the basic training, Riverside City hired our men to staff their two new stations. That is good mutual aid!

Appointed: Frank Thomas as FFF at Morena CDC Camp. Joe Springer to District Headquarters as the Pilot Rock CDC Camp (abuilding) Supervisor. Ed Schuckert into the Puerta La Cruz CDC (abuilding) Camp as Supervisor. Ranger Roy Neil from Butte County into District Headquarters in charge of all CDC camps. Charles Walter, from Lake County to San Diego County as Associate Ranger. Tom Henson to report for appoint as Association State Forest Ranger, Riverside County on August 15, 1956.

Transferred out of District VI were: Richard Ernest to Mendocino County as Foreman. Leslie Peters and Johnie Cumins to Humboldt County as foremen. Robert Paulus to El Dorado County as foreman. Associate Ranger Bill Jamieson to Humboldt County. James Herron to District III as Foreman. Gerald Tipton to Howard Forest as Assistant Ranger. Jim Johnson to Monterey County as Assistant Ranger. Charles Huff to District II as Foreman. Edmund Clement to San Luis Obispo County as foreman. Don Domke to District II Headquarters as Assistant Ranger - District Dispatcher.

Warning is herewith given to District I and III. Don Domke is an initial attack man. He'll drain you! As Dispatcher in San Bernardino County, Don thought nothing of asking District Headquarters for ten fire trucks, all of which had to come out of Riverside County since there was a fifteen minute travel time limit. And Don always got what he asked for.

That about takes care of the comings and goings of the many good men. Best of wishes to all of them.

Douglas M. Glenn, Dispatcher

SAN DIEGO COUNTY NEWS

San Diego County's new nurse tanker has been delivered and has seen service this month. It was used on a structural fire with three other units and the boys report its 1,100 gallons worked out just fine for speedy and assured control.

Associate Bill Jamieson is leaving San Diego County to go back home to the north after 6 years in the brush country of San Diego. We in San Diego will miss him and wish him the best in his new assignment.

San Diego County has one unit assigned to the fire retardant testing program. The unit is usually operated by Foreman Hector Reed. Some of the characteristics of the material used have inspired the following jingle:

Some fight fire with hose and water;
Others use shovels and picks,
But Hector from Ramona
Uses Transit Mix

"Unknown"

Leroy Rockwell, Dispatcher at La Mesa is recovering nicely from a non-serious type operation. The kid just had his tonsils out. Sore throat will stop him from using the mike for a while.

F. M. Anderson
Assistant Ranger



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY

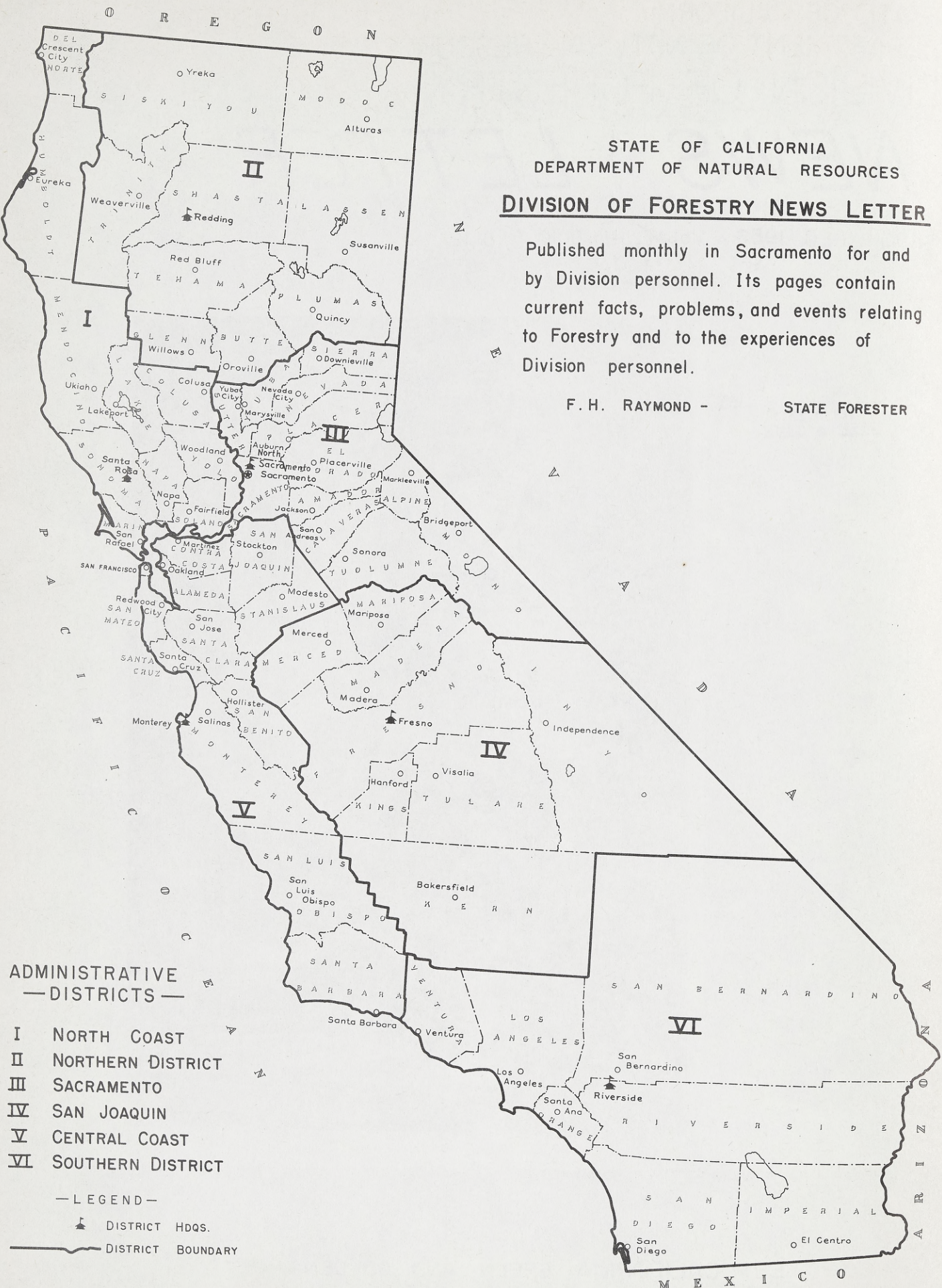
NEWS LETTER

SEPT. - DEC. 1956 Vol. ~~17~~¹⁵, No. 9, 10, 11, & 12.

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KEEP CALIFORNIA GREEN AND GOLDEN





INTERIOR LIVE OAK

INTERIOR LIVE OAK

Scientific Name: Quercus wislizeni (kwer-cus-wiz-luh-zeen-ee)

Common Names: Interior live oak, highland live oak, Sierra live oak; (rarely wislizenus oak).

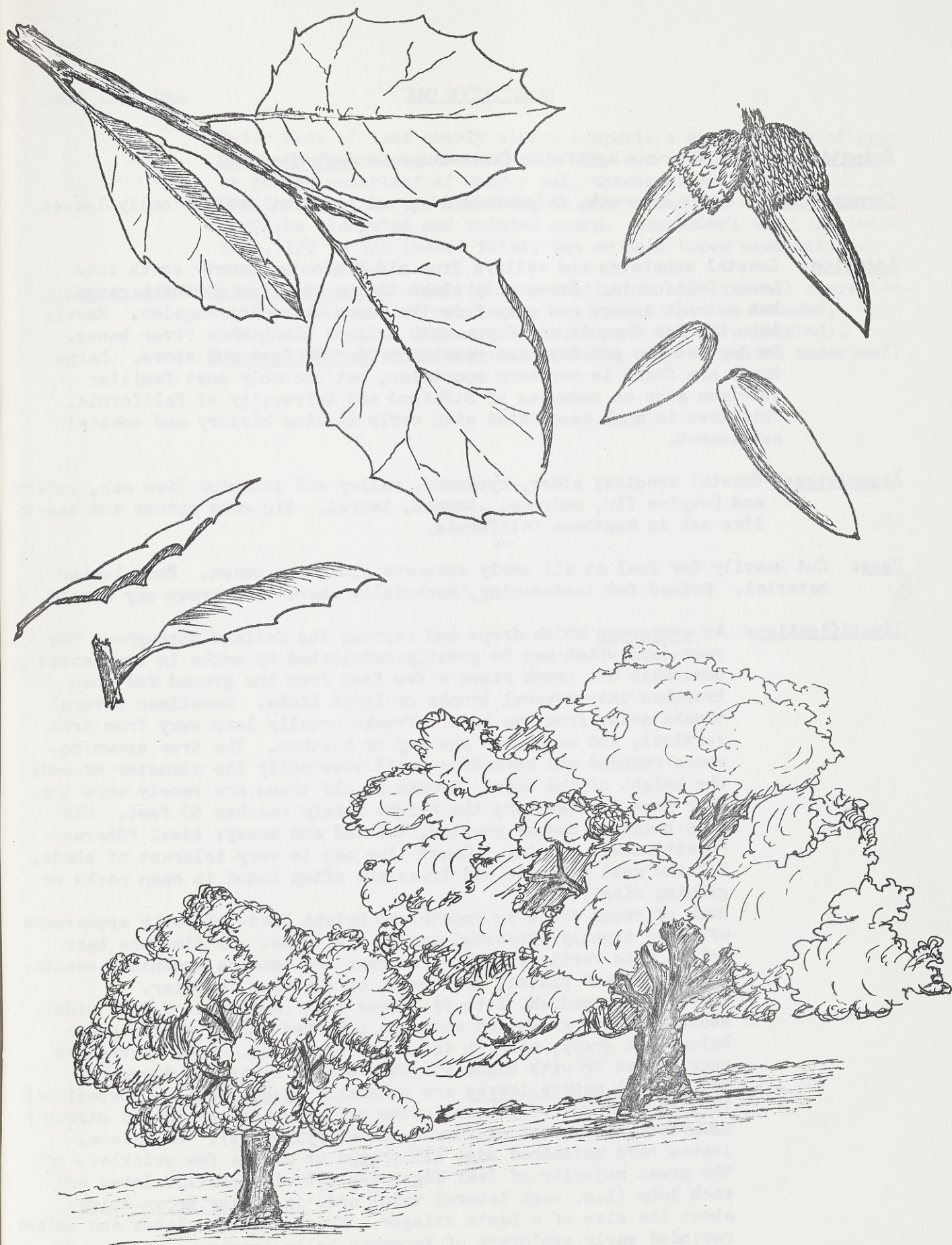
Location: From Mt. Shasta southward down the Sierra foothills between 1000 and 3000 feet elevation. Throughout Inner Coast Range, east and south of Ukiah. In the Santa Lucia, the San Gabriel, Tehachapi Ranges and south through the Guyamaca Mountains, into northern Mexico.

Associates: Blue oak and valley oak, digger pine, buckeye, chaparral. Along its western limits it mingles with coast live oak and even Oregon white oak (north of Tamalpais). This is a hardy tree which survives on hot, dry sites and thrives with good soil and moisture; tolerant of deep shade, but seen most often on exposed slopes.

Uses: An excellent fuel. Used for little else.

Identification: An evergreen (which makes a complete replacement of leaves in the course of two or three seasons). Trunks arise singly or severally from base, generally at an angle. Tree becomes "bushy" in youth and then branchy and spreading widely with maturity. Crowns well clothed with healthy dark green foliage. Young bark tight and rather smooth, gray-brown (darker than coast live oak). Older bark becoming furrowed and dark blue-gray or reddish brown. Sometimes bark of old trees is quite smooth. Maximum trunk diameter about 4 feet, maximum height about 50 feet, crown diameter 60 or 70 feet. (Note: large trees of this species are rare.) Leaves dark green above; lighter tone of yellow-green below. Waxy polish on both surfaces. Leaves rather leathery. Stems may be slightly hairy but not leaf surface. Leaves 1 to $2\frac{1}{2}$ (sometimes 4) inches long; width equals about half of length. Shape sometimes roundish like coast live oak, sometimes longer and more pointed like laurel leaf. Leaf edge may be smooth, not toothed or lobed, not spiny. Part or all of a leaf edge may be slightly toothed similar to coast live oak, and may have several, or up to two dozen, tiny brown spines at end of leaf veins; however, all leaves including those with smooth edge seem to have tiny (bee stinger) prickles at the extreme end of leaf. Leaves flat or edges slightly twisted or slightly cupped either upward or downward, but general appearance of foliage is flat and not cupped. Acorns dark brown, 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, about half as wide, not so elongated or pointed as coast live oak. Sheathed brown cup covers about one-half of nut.

Confused with: Coast live oak (which has cupped leaves with fuzzy under mid-rib.) Canyon live oak (which has gray or golden underleaf, whitish bark.) Valley oak (which has whitish, shreddy bark, leaf edges cut into lobes).



COAST LIVE OAK

COAST LIVE OAK

Scientific Name: *Quercus agrifolia* (kwer-cus-ag-ruh-foal-ee-uh)

Common Names: Coast live oak, California live oak, encina, (rare: "holly-leaved oak").

Location: Coastal mountains and valleys from mid-Mendocino County south into Lower California. Grows only close to the ocean in northern range, but extends inward and away from the ocean below Los Angeles. Rarely into the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys along main river banks. On San Jacinto and Cuyamaca Mountains to 3000 feet and above. Large trees are found in southern mountains, but probably most familiar specimen grow on campuses of Stanford and University of California. This tree is much associated with early mission history and coastal settlement.

Associates: Coastal species; alder, sycamore, valley and interior live oak, redwood, and Douglas fir, madrone, tan oak, laurel. Big cone spruce and canyon live oak in Southern California.

Uses: Cut heavily for fuel at all early seaports along the coast. Poor lumber material. Prized for landscaping, especially where tree crown may spread.

Identification: An evergreen which drops and regrows its foliage throughout the year (and which may be greatly defoliated by moths in some areas). Generally one trunk rises a few feet from the ground and then branches into several trunks or large limbs. Sometimes several trunks arise from one base. Trunks usually lean away from true vertical, and soon bend one way or another. The tree crown becomes rounded and spreading until eventually its diameter exceeds the height of the tree. Trunks of old trees are rarely more than four feet in diameter; the height rarely reaches 50 feet. Old tree branches become gnarled, twisted and mossy; ideal "Sherwood Forest" movie setting. Coast live oak is very tolerant of shade, but the most majestic old trees are often found in open parks or growing singly.

Bark of young trees is smooth and bright lead-gray with appearance of being tightly stretched around the trunk. In time the bark splits into vertical shallow furrows and becomes brownish, eventually rough and plated, dark brown or blackish in color. Leaves are roundish, 1 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long (and about $\frac{2}{3}$ as wide). Medium to dark green and somewhat polished above; yellow-green below (not gray); mid-rib and veins prominent. Some leaves are nearly flat or with edges slightly curled upward or downward, but typical mature leaves are generally spoon-shaped. (Occasionally a single tree will bear leaves all of which are curled strongly inward to the extent of forming loose cylinders). Occasional leaves have untoothed edge all around or with a few prickles, but the great majority of leaf edges are cut with shallow lobes and each lobe (i.e. each lateral vein) ends in a tiny brown spine about the size of a bee's stinger. These delicate lobes and spines reminded early explorers of European holly leaves.

Coast Live Oak

Under side of leaf nearly always supports a small growth of gray or rusty fuzz along the mid-rib. (Do not confuse with the gray or golden underleaf of canyon oak, tanoak or chinquapin). Sheathed (not warty) acorn cup is short stemmed; covers about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the elongated and pointed acorn. Acorns $\frac{3}{4}$ to $2 \frac{3}{4}$ inches long, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inches thick; tan or dark brown when mature.

Confused with: Interior live oak which is very similar in all external characteristics. (Coast live oak leaves are generally more rounded, definitely cupped, thinner; acorns longer and more pointed). Canyon live oak which has whitish bark, gray or golden underleaf.

AUGUST ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL -- Except for an occasional day of critical fire risk, fire weather conditions throughout the month were average or below average. The northern part of the State experienced a great many lightning storms during August, and from the period July 20 to August 20 more than 300 lightning fires occurred at the higher elevations on land protected by the U. S. Forest Service. The North Coast District had 19 lightning fires and the Northern District 63.

For the period July 20 to August 20, the Division of Forestry experienced 450 fires in the watershed and forest areas burning 13,811 acres. Of these 450 fires, only 12 burned 200 acres or more. The two largest were a 5,976 acre brush and grass fire in Tuolumne County on August 11 and a 2,420 acre woodland brush and grass fire in San Diego County on August 14.

Work continued during the month on the preparation of the Fire Plan for the protection of private lands within the National Forest boundaries.

Representatives of the Division attended two indoctrination training sessions in the use of the hose-lay tray attachment for light helicopters. These meetings were presented as a part of "Helitack" which is a co-operative program of the U. S. Forest Service, State Division of Forestry, California Forest and Range Experiment Station, and Arcadia Equipment Development Center, to integrate aircraft into the fire fighting organization. Particular emphasis is being placed on developing various attachments for the small helicopter to make it an initial attack fire fighting tool. The hose lay tray now ready for field use was demonstrated before the two interagency groups on the San Bernardino and Klamath National Forests. Comparative tests were also made using manpower to lay hose over rough terrain. There appears to be considerable promise in using helicopters in many new ways in forest fire control work.

FOREST PRACTICES: The South Sierra Forest Practice Committee met in San Bernardino on August 14, 1956. The purpose of the meeting was to hear testimony from timber owners, operators, and the public in regards to proposed revision of the Forest Practice Rules of the South Sierra Forest District as they apply to Southern California conditions. The meeting was attended by over sixty people from as far south as San Diego County.

An alternate plan for the Clipper Creek Ranch was approved by the State Board of Forestry in Sacramento on August 8, 1956. This plan permits a deviation from the forest practice rules of the North Sierra Pine Forest District with respect to cutting small trees to improve forest growth.

NURSERY: At a meeting held in Sacramento on August 8, 1956, the State Board of Forestry approved prices for forest nursery stock to be sold from Division of Forestry nurseries during the 1956-57 fiscal year. Except for some reduction in prices of species becoming available in larger quantities, the prices approved by the Board were similar to last year. Prices for two-year old bare root seedlings of pines, firs, Douglas fir, cypress, cedar, and redwood ran from \$7.00 to \$12.00 per thousand trees. Potted and transplant hardwood stock for windbreak and erosion control planting are sold in smaller lots and at varying prices depending on species and class of stock.

REFORESTATION: Some 1,654 acres of state, county, and private land were planted to trees during the fiscal year 1955-56 in comparison with 1,206 acres for the previous year according to information recently gathered by the California Division of Forestry. In the 1955-56 fiscal year 549 acres were planted by the forest industries, and 482 acres were planted by private persons, clubs, and associations. On State Forests 54 acres were planted to trees. An additional 527 acres of state land were planted during the last planting season of which some 500 acres involved the replanting of the Conejos burn on the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park in San Diego County. The planting of this burn was done under the supervision of the Division using Forestry Honor Camp inmates in co-operation with the Division of Beaches and Parks.

SERVICE FORESTRY: Accomplishments in the Service Forestry program during the fiscal year 1955-56 continue to show improvement. The program provides advice and on-the-ground training for small timberland owners on marking, cruising, planting, pruning and other phases of forest management. During this period our seven service foresters received and acted on 1,264 requests for services. 776 landowners involving 95,215 acres were given advice and forest management assistance. Improved cutting practices took place on 228 ownerships. Trees on 537 acres were pruned and 471 acres were planted to trees. Some 55,000,000 board feet of timber was harvested having a stumpage value of \$535,000.00.. In addition, 4,862 acres were saved from premature harvesting. The service foresters persuaded 39 owners involving 23,366 acres of timberland to avail themselves of the services of consulting foresters for more intensive assistance.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: Range improvement personnel from Sacramento and District IV headquarters spent two and one-half days collecting field data for a range survey of Mountain Home State Forest. Data on the grazing resource will be compiled and recommendations made for maintaining the small mountain meadows in good condition since they are an important attraction to recreational use of the forest.

The Humboldt County Cattlemen's Association and the Humboldt County Forestry Committee co-operated in sponsoring a Soil-Vegetation Field Tour in the Bridgeville area on Saturday, August 25, 1956. Representatives of the Agricultural Extension Service discussed soils and vegetation at a number of locations where range improvement work is in progress. Some of the areas formerly were in timber; others are natural grasslands. In one case it is planned to reforest a former timber site on a deep forest soil that has been used as range for several years. After lunch at the new Bridgeville Fire Station of the Division of Forestry, a series of short talks discussed the Soil-Vegetation Survey and use of the information, uses of aerial photographs by ranchers, and spring vs. summer burning for range improvement.

ENGINEERING: The equipment-storage building at Bridgeville Forest Fire Station in Humboldt County has been completed and the other buildings, barracks-messhall, and residence are 90% complete.

The water system at Lassen Lodge in Tehama County has been completed.

The new map of San Bernardino County has been printed and sent to the field.

A Lake County map has also been completed and sent to the District for use this summer.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: The largest fire of the month occurred on the second day of a two-day Santana condition in District VI. This was the 1,050 acre Barona fire six miles north of Lakeside in San Diego County.

The weather remained fairly normal for the first three weeks of the month although light showers or drizzles were experienced in some areas. During the remainder of the month two large storm fronts moved through the State bringing from a moderately heavy rain and some snow at the higher elevations in the north to scattered showers or drizzles in the south.

On October 30th the State Forester declared the fire season closed in Districts I through IV.

A major portion of the month has been spent in outlining and starting a report on the past summer's special project on cloud modification.

Following intensive use of seven "aerial tankers" (converted agricultural crop-dusting aircraft) on fires during this season, a three-day conference was held at Willows airport for evaluation purposes. This is a joint project with the California Forest and Range Experiment Station, U. S. Forest Service, and California Division of Forestry. The objective of the meeting was to review activities during the fire season, discuss operational problems and techniques, make aerial drops with chemicals from various altitudes, and prepare an operational guide for this "tool" to aid ground forces in fire control operations. The majority of those present had witnessed or taken part in operational air drops on fires this year.

Last August 1 the fleet of seven air tankers was set up on standby in the Willows, Corning, Red Bluff area for dispatch to fires in Northern California. During the month they were used on fifteen fires, six of which were California Division of Forestry. During September they were used extensively in Southern California including the McKinley fire on San Bernardino National Forest near Lake Arrowhead. In all, they operated on twenty-three fires state-wide for both the U. S. Forest Service and California Division of Forestry dropping a total of 83,120 gallons of water and 40,580 gallons of retardant chemical. Analysis by fire control men on each of these fires indicated that on fourteen of them the results were good, that on four the results were of some help, that on four of no help, and on one fire the effect was adverse. Primarily the difficulties were concerned with lack of air to ground communications and lack of co-ordination of drops with ground effort. It was felt that these problems could be remedied; however, and that the air tankers could become an operational tool next fire season.

FOREST PRACTICES: The Forest Practice Committee of the North Sierra Pine Forest District on October 17, 1956, made a field trip to the Diamond Match Company operations in the Lyman Springs-Mineral area. The committee reviewed on the ground a proposed alternate plan in which the company plans to deviate from the cutting provisions of the forest practice rules by thinning an over crowded timber stand to increase the net growth and salvage many small trees that would soon die a natural death. Timber trespass, the possibility of exempting certain species of trees from the minimum diameter and seed tree requirements of the rules, and subjects of related nature were discussed by the committee following the field trip.

STATE FORESTS: Willits Redwood Products Company was awarded the sale of some 18 million board feet of redwood and Douglas fir timber on the Jackson State Forest when sealed bids were opened in Fort Bragg on October 5, 1956. The timber will be sold at \$26.20 per thousand board feet for both species and should bring a return to the State of \$461,120. The purchaser has until November 30th of next year to harvest the timber designated for cutting on 600 acres of State Forest land.

Stream clearance work has been carried on this summer and fall on the Jackson State Forest as a pilot operation to gain a more open waterway for migratory fish spawning runs in West Chamberlain Creek.

High Sierra Pine Mills, Inc., of Oroville on October 15, 1956, was awarded a sale of sawlogs from the Forest Ranch Forest Fire Station site in Butte County. About 84,700 board feet of mixed conifer timber is being logged by Division personnel to convert a portion of the property to a demonstration forest. The sale of logs should bring some \$2,800 to the State in the form of revenue.

In co-operation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Division is carrying on experimental forest regeneration studies this year on the Mountain Home, Jackson, and Latour State Forests. Chemically treated tree seed is being used to test the effectiveness of WRL-3, an experimental formulation, in control of rodents on direct seeding projects. Other chemicals for rodent control are also being tried on one Forest to secure natural regeneration.

Chemical herbicides were used this fall on the Latour State Forest on an experimental basis for the control of brush for reforestation purposes. The study will be continued next spring.

INSECT CONTROL: A forest insect aerial survey was made of the Sierra Nevada mountains during the month of October by entomologists of the Division of Forest Insect Research of the California Forest and Range Experiment Station in co-operation with the Division of Forestry which furnished an observer. The results of this survey will be compiled, and field checks made by the Experiment Station before presentation to the California Forest Pest Control Action Council in November. The Council will issue a report of state-wide forest pest conditions following that meeting.

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

FIRE CONTROL: Fire weather remained unseasonably warm and dry in almost all areas of the State with District VI experiencing mild to very critical Santana conditions during most of the month. The two large fires during this period were both joint C.D.F. - U. S. Forest Service fires. The East Highlands Fire in San Bernardino burned 15,300 acres and the Inaja fire in San Diego burned 45,000 acres. One hundred thirty-five overhead and 31 fire trucks were moved into District VI for these two fires. Several other fires over 100 acres occurred in Districts IV, V, and VI.

In addition to activities associated with forest fire control, several meetings were arranged between Districts IV and V to discuss their mutual radio interference problems and design future corrective action.

The first project was to invite the Division of Communications Engineers to conduct a radio coverage survey in the Black Mountain Meadow Valley Peak area

in Fresno County. This survey was scheduled to start on November 27 and was completed by November 29. Further studies will be made on this inter-district interference problem during December.

Maps were prepared showing all U.S. Forest Service and Division of Forestry fires over 5,000 acres in size for the period 1946-1955; a map of all dams over 10,000 acre feet, and Zone 2 - 3 boundary to be used in budget hearings.

Work continued on the compilation of the report on the lightning control program and some film was edited to be used for the Northern California section of the Society of American Foresters December 1 in San Francisco and December 5 in Victoria at the Western Forestry and Conservation Association meeting.

Work also continued on the preparation of the U. S. Forest Service Fire Plan. It is now ready for the final draft.

A meeting was held on November 9 with representatives of the Legislative Auditor's office to discuss the Fire Plan and acquaint them with the various problems involved and our proposals for their solution.

A ten-day tractor test was held on the Hunter Liggett Military Reservation near King City in Monterey County. The purpose of the test was to evaluate the performance of various track laying tractors in the medium class (D-4) which had not been included in the previous tests in 1953 and 1955. The performance standards established by the two previous tests were used as a basis for comparing these tractors. In addition, certain small tractors and plows were tested to determine their application for initial attack fire control operation. Approximately 12 miles of fire break was constructed on slopes varying from level to extreme during the period. Operators were rotated among the various machines in order to make the test as equitable as possible. Twenty-three Forestry employees were involved full time on the project. Representatives from the manufacturers of the machines involved attended and participated in the test. A big job still remains to be done in evaluation of the data before final conclusions can be drawn to determine those machines which will meet the Division's requirements.

FOREST PRACTICES: Some members of the Forest Practice Committees of the North and South Sierra Pine Forest Districts met in the State Forester's office on November 7, 1956, and a joint meeting of all Forest Practice Committees was held in San Francisco on November 13th. Members of the lumber industry and the Division of Forestry participated in these meetings where a study of the Forest Practice Act, requested by these Committees and approved by the State Board of Forestry on March 22, 1956, was presented and discussed. Experiences gained in the administration of the Forest Practice Act, and the attempted prosecutions by the Attorney General's office have shown the enforcement procedures to be cumbersome and inadequate for prompt and effective legal action.

The State Board of Forestry, meeting with members of the four Forest Practice Committees and representatives of the forest industries; in San Francisco on November 15, 1956, determined that certain amendments to the Act are desirable and necessary. The Board authorized the drafting of proposed amendments for further review and introduction at the 1957 Session of the Legislature.

Two alternate plans were approved by the State Board of Forestry in San Francisco on November 16, 1956. One plan submitted by The Diamond Match

Company of Chico permits a deviation from the North Sierra Forest Practice Rules with respect to cutting crowded timber stands to increase forest growth and decrease mortality. The plan submitted by Mrs. Fay Gunby of Placerfille for her property west of Lake Tahoe within the South Sierra Pine Forest District allows the cutting of lodgepole pine below 18 inches D.B.H. when logging the stand to improve the quality of the timber stand.

INSECT AND DISEASE CONTROL: The California Forest Pest Control Action Council met in Sacramento on November 20, 1956, to review forest pest conditions in the State as revealed by detection reports, aerial surveys, and investigations. The substance of these reports and their pertinent data will be published in the annual, "Forest Pest Conditions," report and widely distributed to co-operating public and private agencies, timber owners and operators, and others.

The forest insect situation fluctuated a great deal in California during 1956. The year began with serious tree losses from bark beetles in the Central Sierra foothill region. During the summer defoliators became the main concern, but in the fall, bark beetle damage began to appear again.

The amount of damage and loss from forest diseases in 1956 was not greater than in 1955, but more extensive damage was observed this year because the survey was more thorough than ever before. Losses from dwarf mistletoe in red fir and sugar pine are more severe and extensive than previously believed. No southward extension of white pine blister rust on pine was observed, and infection conditions were not favorable for appreciable southward spread this year.

The Division was involved in seven forest insect control projects during the 1955-56 season. The total cost of the projects amounted to \$27,500 of which the state's share was \$15,417 in money and contributed labor. There were 2,143 trees treated and one project involved the spraying of 2,266 acres of state and private land. Three of these projects were contracted by agreement to the U. S. Forest Service to do the work, and involved the contribution of federal funds to the extent of 25% of the control costs on private lands. One project on federal land was done by the Division under agreement with the Federal Government using Federal funds. Control work on the three remaining projects was done by Division personnel and Forestry Honor Camp crews. Two of these projects were on private land and one on State land.

Continuance of the insect control projects for this fiscal year are planned at this time for San Jacinto, Arrowhead Crestline, and Cuyamaca Rancho State Park areas in Southern California; and the Osborne Hill Zone of Infestation in the Central Sierra. A critical situation exists in the Mill Portrero area on the Los Padres National Forest where pine engravers and flatheaded borers are killing many Jeffrey pines on several hundred acres. A field appraisal survey is to be made of this area soon for further information. Initial control action is recommended that may involve state co-operation as some private land is reportedly involved.

DEMONSTRATION FORESTS: Some 120,000 board feet of sawlogs were sold to the High Sierra Pine Mills, Inc., of Oroville from the Forest Ranch Forest Fire Station demonstration forest in Butte County for \$4,091. Local Division personnel logged this timber and received valuable training in all phases of logging, scaling, and forest management. A portion of the station site is being converted to a demonstration forest.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT: During November three plots were established on Backbone Range Study Area in Shasta County to test effects of chemical sprays in controlling brush sprouts and seedlings. Fertilizers were applied to three additional plots to determine response of the soil to various soil amendments.

The Division of Forestry experimental program in land clearing and revegetation was reviewed at the joint meeting of the State Board of Forestry and the Range Improvement Advisory Committee in San Francisco, on November 14, 1956. The major results obtained during the course of five field studies since 1948 were summarized and discussed briefly.

Range Improvement personnel from the State Forester's staff participated in a conference on "Sediment Problems in California" sponsored by the Department of Engineering, University of California. This conference, dealing mainly with downstream, harbor, and coastal phases of sedimentation, gave an interesting insight to the engineering approach to these matters.

An application of 300 pounds of fertilizer was made on plots B and D, at Spring Dell Range Study Area in San Benito County, using fixed wing aircraft.

SUMMARY OF THE DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL SATISFACTION OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY OF LEVI TURNER BURCHAM

Historical Geography of the Range Livestock Industry of California

Ranching, the first industry in California, had its beginning in 1769 when Franciscan missionaries brought cattle and horses to the mission they were founding at San Diego. Long before the discovery of gold, the forage on the hills formed the basis of a reliable local economy in California.

The Spanish pioneers found a magnificent range resource. An abundance of palatable, nutritious forage, mainly from perennial plants, was admirably adapted to yearlong grazing under proper management. The total forage crop was on the order of 22.3 million animal unit months for Spanish livestock; it would have supported 1.8 million animal units of modern stock on a sustained basis.

For more than half a century California remained an outpost on the frontier of New Spain. The range livestock industry dominated the economic and social life of the entire province. The discovery of gold, occurring almost simultaneously with acquisition of California by the United States, created prodigious local markets for meat. The spectacular livestock boom of the 1850's brought high prices and overstocking of the ranges; it was terminated by devastating droughts that permanently curbed livestock raising on a speculative basis in California. This seeming disaster had beneficial aspects, fostering foundations of sound range management for an industry which today is important in the agricultural economy of the state.

Nearly two centuries of grazing have vastly altered the ranges from their pristine condition. Native perennial forage has been replaced largely by annual plants, a majority of them introduced. Replacement of native vegetation began about the time the first Spanish settlers arrived. Certain introduced annuals achieved virtual dominance over great areas of range in chronological sequence. It is highly significant that this sequence in dominance corresponds to the descending scale of annual plant successions under different intensities of range use, affording a clear indication of a secular trend toward

lower productivity.

During the last century average live weight of stock on the ranges increased about 25 per cent, placing continually greater demands on the resource because of correspondingly higher requirements for feed. While there has been no consistent trend in seasonal rainfall during the past century, there have been wide variations in this and other climatic factors from year to year which contributed to deterioration of the range.

The downward trend in productivity of our range lands has been largely reversed during the last quarter of a century. Active measures have been initiated in making an inventory of range resources, control of woody vegetation, range rehabilitation, fertilization, and grazing management. There is a growing awareness that the range is a renewable resource. Ranchers themselves are at the forefront, making a major effort to maintain and increase productivity of their range lands.

MEMORIAL

Most California newspapers noted the death on November 20 of Miss Esto Broughton of Modesto. She was one of the first women elected to the California Legislature. What has been long forgotten is that in her first session in 1919, Assemblywoman Broughton succeeded where bitter failure had been the rule for over thirty years. She introduced a bill embracing a fire fighting appropriation of \$25,000 for the State Board of Forestry. Before this time only a few small matching appropriations had been made specifically for protection work in the National Forests of the San Gabriel Range. Once the Governor vetoed a state-wide \$50,000 fire suppression appropriation for technical reasons. Miss Broughton (assisted by a good fire scare during the first World War) was successful and her bill was signed into law by Governor Stephens on May 22, 1919. With this fund (and Federal aid) it was possible to employ the first four State Forest Rangers.

C. R. Clar

Three range technicians of the California Division of Forestry will present papers at the annual meeting of the California Section, American Society of Range Management, being held in San Luis Obispo on December 18 and 19, 1956. R. H. Blanford, District II, will report on, "The Sprouting of Chamise After Cutting at Various Times of the Year," giving results of a study conducted on the Williams Ranch in Shasta County. L. T. Burcham, Sacramento headquarters, will discuss, "The Ecology of a Little-Known Weedy Grass of the Sierra Foothills." C. E. Carlson, District III, will explain results of a co-operative study in the use of chemicals in brush control in a paper on, "Aircraft Sprays in the Control of Chamise Sprouts," prepared jointly by himself and Dr. O. A. Leonard of the University of California at Davis.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

PERSONNEL CHANGES SINCE SEPTEMBER, 1956.

Sacramento Administration: Edward Gladish, former Trainee in District II, appointed Assistant Technician at Berkeley to work on co-operative soil-vegetation survey with the California Range and Experiment Station (University of California and C.D.F.). This was omitted from our September report of personnel changes.

Wilbur Zimdars appointed Forestry Equipment Engineer to replace Luther Gordon, who recently retired. Mr. Zimdars was formerly Automotive Maintenance Foreman in District III.

Clifford Bales, Associate Civil Engineer, has been appointed to the Sacramento staff to replace Wray Odell.

District I: George H. Ryder, former Trainee in District III, appointed Assistant Ranger in Humboldt County.

John E. Spharler promoted from Trainee to Assistant Technician and assigned to the Jackson State Forest.

Donald McCutchan appointed Trainee. He was formerly a Forest Fire Fighter Foreman in District VI.

We all regret the passing of Ranger James Glenn, Sonoma County, on October 15th. Jim had been ill for sometime.

District II: Ross Little transferred from the Division of Highways to accept the position of Automotive Maintenance Foreman in District II.

District III: George A. Dudley, former Assistant Technician in District I, appointed Forest Technician in District III to replace Harvey Striplin.

Frank Noyes and Weston Wyllie, Forest Fire Dispatchers, both reclassified to Assistant Rangers under our new program.

Don Swain, former Heavy Equipment Mechanic at the Davis Shops, appointed Automotive Maintenance Foreman in District III.

Ray Little promoted from Foreman to Trainee in District III.

Ranger Jerry Reinecker, Yuba County, has taken a leave of absence to do post-graduate study at the University of Michigan.

District IV: Carl Nicolson and Johnie Dick appointed as Trainees in District IV. Both had been Forest Fire Fighter Foremen.

District V: Robert J. Odgers, Foreman in District III, appointed Assistant Ranger in San Luis Obispo County.

District VI: Marlin B. Boucher promoted from Foreman to Assistant Ranger in Riverside County.

DISTRICT I

The many friends of Ranger Jim Glenn were shocked and saddened to learn of his sudden death on October 15, 1956. Jim served the Division of Forestry for over twenty-two years in various positions and locations in the state. He started in San Diego in 1934 and after a number of years in Southern California he worked for a time in the Sacramento office going from there for a short tour of duty in Auburn. In the early 40's he was assigned as State Forest Ranger in Humboldt County where he remained until he received a special assignment in District I Headquarters office in 1945. From the headquarters assignment he moved to Sonoma

County in 1947 as Ranger and spent the remaining years of his Forestry service there. Jim was an able, loyal, capable man and his loss will be felt in many ways.

"BUCK" ERICKSON HONORED ON RETIREMENT

St. Helena -- E. A. "Buck" Erickson's retirement as Napa County Ranger after 27 years of service with the Division of Forestry became effective July 1, but the men of the Division, their families, and state and county officials, continued to pay him homage recently at one of the liveliest and largest testimonial dinners ever held in Napa County.

More than 300 guests, including out of district representatives from as far north as Tehama County and as far south as San Diego County, jammed Bothe's Paradise Park in a tribute to the former ranger.

Erickson's administration, said to be the Division's longest record of service in one county, received a masculine-type compliment with "hearts and flowers" masked in hilarious skits written and produced by men to whom he was chief.

Entertainment during the party was planned and conducted by Forestry personnel. A series of comic pictures depicting events in "Buck's" life were flashed on a large screen and a narration of each picture was given by Associate Ranger Ray Banks. These pictures were drawn by Foreman Ray Williams of Sonoma County to whom we owe a large vote of thanks. A radio skit and stage scene was put on by a group of eight employees, namely: Ranger Fran Gowell, Technician Paul Furbush, Associates Ray Banks, Bill Miller, and Ross Dunwoody, Dispatcher Al Campbell and Foremen Wayne Malm and Angie Pedroncelli.

Former Napa County staff members, now stationed in other parts of the state, signed the guest book that was among the gifts presented to the honored guest. On the day of his retirement local crews presented their retiring chief with a handsome wristwatch. State Forester Francis Raymond left his place at the head table to preside at the serious portion of the festivities when Erickson opened packages containing a deer rifle, carrying case, saddle scabbard, and a set of steelyards in order that arguments as to who got the largest buck could readily be settled. He was also presented with a scroll, which was signed by the Director and the State Forester, making him an honorary technician. It was originally planned that Deputy State Forester Grogan would make this later presentation since he was quite instrumental in gaining "Buck's" recognition of the technician group, but since Mr. Grogan was unable to attend the party Ranger "Doc" Hufford made the presentation.

Also honored was Mrs. Erickson, whose gift from her husband's admirers and associates was a wristwatch and a large orchid corsage. Acknowledging the gifts, Erickson paid this fine tribute to this wife, Alice: "She did as much as I did to earn this marvelous occasion, cheering me and giving me courage in the early days when the 'battle line' was even closer to home than it is today."

"There just aren't words to express my appreciation of having so many friends," he said. "I want to keep them."

Erickson also stressed his gratitude for help in keeping pace with the Division's rapidly growing scope of service. "I had the good help of all the good citizens of Napa County and all the fellows that have worked for me. I don't think any county has ever had better men and loyalty over the years than

I have had. The spirit of my employees and volunteers can make a better world."

In conclusion he pledged his continued help in serving the people of Napa County. "Everyone from everywhere, my sincere thanks for this wonderful tribute!"

Rancher John Wilen of Sonoma County, on hearing an unusual sound, stepped into his front yard and greeted a helicopter pilot who had just landed. He was seeking directions to the Cooley Ranch where he was scheduled to seed a large control burn. Following a friendly cup of coffee, and a free 'copter' ride for Wilen, the pilot and his craft went on to his destination.

C. W. Fairbank, Deputy State Forester

MADERA COUNTY

All personnel in this Ranger Unit took a deep breath sometime during the evening of September 1st. The occasion was the more or less successful termination of the 1956 brush burning program for the purpose of range improvement in Madera County. A total of some 39 ownerships took part in the program and some 12,000 acres were treated. There were thirteen co-operative burns conducted on various Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays starting July 7th. Several escapes were experienced, but none of a serious nature, the largest being about 50 acres in size. This may be said to be a good record in view of the heavy grass conditions resulting from favorable winter rains. A good portion of the acreages burned this year were reburns and generally good results have been experienced considering the type of vegetation and the country. More railing of brush and general preparation of areas for burning has been done. The local ranchers generally are beginning to see the value as concerns burning of brush-covered ranges.

A definite program is set up each year whereby those areas needing reburning are given priority over areas which will be burned for the first time. In this way, regrowth is not allowed to get too large for effective clean-up in preceeding burns. Two areas which were burned for the first time this year have constituted definite hazards as concerns wild fires in the past, and we now have in their stead areas with ready built bulldozer lines, trails accessible to equipment, and much less accumulations of dead brush, timber, and general trash. No one can say perhaps what the end result of this effort will be, but the reduction of hazards as described above is certainly a benefit that can be enjoyed in the immediate future.

As concerns rural fire protection in Madera County, we are anticipating delivery of a new cab over engine Ford Fabco 4-Wheel conversion fire truck with a two stage midship pump driven by power take-off. The truck will have a 20 GPM auxiliary engine driven Bean high pressure unit for grass and grain fire control work. The Fabco front end on a truck of this size will be new to us at least, and will be interesting to watch. We are now in the process of completing specifications for another new rural truck to be built sometime in the next year.

The Board of Supervisors formally approved the County budget for fire protection for the 1956-57 fiscal year on September 4. Among other things in the budget will be the operation of the Berenda Station on a 12-month basis, whereas in the past it has been operated on a 7-month (summer months) basis. Further, funds have been set-up to carry a second of the County-owned trucks being replaced on direct County maintenance and operat it with a rural Volunteer

Fire Department trained by the Division of Forestry personnel. There is presently one of these volunteer organizations at North Fork, and the new organization will be at Oakhurst. These volunteer organizations are mainly intended to help structural fire protection in the small mountain communities. Being trained and organized by Division personnel however, they will respond to all types of fires in their area. There are many benefits of this program through the fire prevention that is sold, home inspection programs set up, and general fire consciousness of the persons in the mountain communities. These volunteers are raising funds to buy equipment through giving pot luck suppers, shows and chances, and indirectly the wildland fire situation will be benefited by the lessening of incidence and better co-operation of the local people, the County, and the Division of Forestry. The local representatives of the U. S. Forest Service have also co-operated in this rural Volunteer Fire Department effort at North Fork and Oakhurst as they also stand to get considerable benefits.

G. O. Phibbs, State Forest Ranger

TULARE COUNTY

Some time ago we in Tulare County, conceived a seemingly good plan of assigning the News Letter detail to the various administrative personnel with each individual responsible for a particular month. Included in the plan was an automatic notification to the next in line that his turn at the task was present. Everything went along fine for several months, then something happened; we aren't sure what, but the system broke down somewhere along the line, and for the last few months nothing has shown up.

In late June and early July Tulare County retired three old obsolete pieces of fire equipment and placed in service three new fire trucks. The three new trucks are on GMC 554 chassis and the buildup was completed by P. E. Van Pelt. One truck is equipped with a 750 GPM midship pump and a 60/600 4 stage high pressure booster pump. The other two trucks are equipped with 500 GPM Chrysler Hale skid type pumps.

Bids were recently opened for two new fire truck chassis. The purchase order has been issued and we should be receiving two F-800 Ford chassis within the next few months. It is the intention to build these into 750 GPM pumpers with 60/600 4 stage high pressure booster pumps. These two trucks, when completed will replace the last Class II fire trucks remaining in the Schedule "A" portion of Tulare County.

So far this year, September 11, 1956, we have had few major fires as far as acreage or monetary loss is concerned. By number we have had 816 rural fires, and 43 Zone 1 or 2 fires to September 5. Our largest acreage occurred in July when we burned 350 acres in the Springville area. Our largest monetary loss occurred in February when a hay barn and 1,260 tons of hay were destroyed in the Tulare area with \$42,000.00 loss. Our total fire loss in Zone III to September 1 amounts to \$278,018.00 and comprises 816 runs. Of these 816 runs, 191 were of structural type and 4 of the 191 structures were of the industrial type. Our Zones 1 and 2 acreage to September 1 totals 614.6 and includes primarily grass with some brush and timber.

We have reinstituted our plan of having each of the administrative personnel responsible for separate months of the News Letter. We hope that it will work this time.

Orval Schonher, Dispatcher

Tulare County (Cont'd.)

Some time back in the year 1946 a young fellow decided that he would join the forestry ranks for the summer only. Surely, he thought, there were other things with more opportunity and appeal that he could do at the end of summer. However, soon after becoming a fire fighter, the fires begin to pop here and there and this particular fellow, after working on a few, realized the taste and smell of smoke was, to say the least, very interesting. Not only was the work interesting, but there seemed to be great opportunity for advancement. After 4 or 5 months employment he realized that some jobs had better conditions and also paid more money than others. He more or less set his sights on becoming an Assistant State Forest Ranger. Without any doubt, this probably was one of the most painless jobs forestry had to offer. His outlook on an Assistant State Forest Ranger's job at that time was this:

1. Rides around in a pickup and issues burning permits.
2. Stands at the bottom of the mountain and says to his foreman, "the fire is up there! If you need anything, send a man down and let me know."
3. Corrects pay vouchers and fire reports.
4. Assigns days off.
5. Besides, he had an expense account.

Of course, there were some duties which would get your hands dirty, such as; reaching behind the fan of the trucks to see if the motor was clean, and above window door casings to see if they were dusty. These, however, were minor inconveniences which could be put up with. There wasn't any doubt about it -- he wanted to be an Assistant State Forest Ranger.

Time passed on slowly during the next few years. He was a foreman sure, but promotions were slowing down, examinations becoming tougher. Not only that, but all these new-fangled ideas. Foreman issuing fire permits, making out day-off schedules, being a fire boss, keeping all those reports, even making out sub-purchase orders. Boy, an Assistant Ranger didn't have anything to do any more.

Gradually the passing of years became faster. Lake, Humboldt, and Shasta Counties were memories. The new-fangled ideas were beginning to sink in. A hitch as a Trainee helped to a great extent. Another promotion to Project Foreman, but he was impatient, when was that gravy train job coming? Finally, on the 1st day of July, 1956, that grand day came. He had been promoted to Assistant State Forest Ranger in Tulare County. That soft, luxurious job was his.

This particular fellow has been an Assistant Ranger for three months now, and in all sincerity is very happy with his new position. However, he feels that the old saying, "believe nothing you hear and only half of what you see," still holds true.

Harold J. (Jim) Stanley
Assistant State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT IV HEADQUARTERS

The prompt and effective law enforcement action taken by Assistant Ranger Cy Holmes of Tulare County on September 12 should serve notice to careless railroad employees that "Crime Does Not Pay." Holmes observed the Southern Pacific conductor throw a lighted railroad fusee from the caboose of a freight train near Tipton, California, September 12. Holmes immediately contacted the railroad dispatcher and requested that the train be stopped at Tulare. The train was stopped, the responsible person identified, and a citation issued. The employee pleaded guilty in the local Justice Court.

Pictures of the fire started by this fusee were taken the following morning which definitely established the relationship of the fusee as the origin and cause of the fire and the relationship to the Southern Pacific tracks. These Polaroid pictures were submitted as evidence of the case handled personally by the Tulare County District Attorney. Upon hearing from the Pixley Judicial Court before Judge O. W. Bryant, the defendant pleaded guilty and was fined \$500.00. \$400.00 was suspended on the conditions that the Defendant does not repeat any careless or negligent acts while disposing of signal fusees and that the Defendant personally pay the fine within 48 hours without assistance from his employer, Union, or friends.

Surely prompt aggressive law enforcement action in similar cases should help to reduce the number of railroad fires caused by the careless discarding of fusees.

C. E. Metcalf
Deputy State Forester

Practices A-7 and B-10 in the Agricultural Conservation Program, have received considerable impetus in the South Sierras during the past few months. The opportunity afforded the Forest Technician in working with the landowners in securing approval of work for the incentive payments, has paid off in several ways. In discussing the good forest practices of planting, pruning, thinning, and land clearing for timber purposes, we have been able to eliminate the cutting of some of the smaller diameter trees, which in ten years will double in board foot volume. Also, since the incentive for good forestry practices will be greater in cash return than that which can be gotten on range improvement practices, we feel that some of the marginal timberland, which has, in the past, been clearcut for grazing purposes, may be retained in timber. However, because of lack of definite survival data on plantings in the pure pine type in this area, it has been necessary to recommend only small acreage be approved under the A-7 program. We are working with several landowners this fall and winter in the experimental planting of areas, so that when definite results are obtained, it will be possible to know what to recommend under various planting conditions. This is particularly true where the landowner wants to grow fir at low elevations under artificial shade and irrigation.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

We quote below a letter of appreciation from Brigadier General Eubank for our assistance on a plane wreck recently:

"Director
California State Division of Forestry
Sacramento, California

"Dear Sir:

"I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the helpful assistance rendered by Mr. George Phibbs of the Madera County and California State Forestry Department, who assisted during the emergency following our recent aircraft accident. Mr. Phibbs responded with his equipment and worked tirelessly throughout the afternoon and night to extinguish fires and confine the blaze to a minimum area. He also assisted by providing radio communications to his base unit.

"It is indeed gratifying to know that such wholehearted co-operation is available to us as neighbors and members of the local community.

"Please extend my thanks and appreciation to the members of the State Forestry Department, Madera County Division, who responded so promptly during this emergency.

Sincerely,
s/ William E. Eubank, Jr.
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander"

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

Kings County

Assistant Ranger Stephens has returned from vacation on August 31st and said fishing at the coast was swell. Vacationing at Yellowstone National Park is Associate Ranger Lindley and is no doubt enjoying a new trailer house.

Several injuries were recorded among personnel this month. Driver Elwood Kemble at the Guernsey Station is nursing his right arm as a result of a bite from his pet monkey (Boo), while repairing the cage for the Kings County Fair display. Tendon damage necessitated surgery and his arm is supporting a cast. Cloys Mathews was using a double bitted axe to trim some tree limbs and the axe fell short hitting the lower part of his foot.

The new Mercury sedan for the Associate Ranger is in the garage waiting for the tire replacements.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

Those of us who have had our vacations feel a nostalgia creeping - quite a number of our personnel selected the Fall in order to go deer hunting. Associate Ranger and Mrs. Lindley are looking for a live one in Modoc County. Everyone is optimistic. The fire station cooks are trading wild game recipes.

The social season is on. Volunteer groups and station crews have started a series of dinners from fish fry to pot luck. Both Rangers Lindley and Stephens attend these functions. The food is always good and the comradeship excellent.

I am happy to report our two drivers who suffered injuries on the job last month have returned to their duties.

We are continuing our efforts on behalf of selling fire prevention. This is being accomplished by many means including the supply of material and information for others who are using the subject as a speaker's topic, talks, demonstrations, press copy, and pamphlets.

With cooler mornings and evening in the San Joaquin Valley, another fire hazard is presented - the oil, gas, and other types of heating equipment when improperly installed.

The Associate Ranger is now using his new auto.

N. O. Stephens
Assistant State Forest Ranger

MADERA-MERCED RANGER UNIT NEWS

On September 17th at 1445 a call was received in the Madera CDF office that a B-52 Jet-Bomber had exploded and crashed 4 miles south of Madera next to Highway 99. Schedule "A" units from Madera, Berenda, Chowchilla, and Ripperdan were dispatched as were 2 Schedule "B" units from Headquarters and 2 pumpers from the Madera City Fire Department.

Upon arrival the crews found wreckage and numerous fires and many spectators spread over a mile square area. Witnesses reported the plane was seen burning while in flight and then exploded just before it hit the ground. The pilot and co-pilot were able to parachute to safety but the 5 crewmen were killed in the explosion.

Burning jet fuel was spread over a wide area and destroyed a residence, a ceramic shop, a barn, several sheds, some livestock, and miscellaneous numbers of power poles, farm equipment, tools, and 3 acres of cotton. The value of the plane was placed at \$8 million while the loss to all the other property was estimated at \$16,000. Fire crews were able to save 2 dwellings and other property valued at \$15,000. Water was supplied to the fire trucks from a Division of Highway's tanker. Two crash trucks from Castle Air Base stood by for several days in case of flare ups. Airmen were on duty at the scene for two weeks collecting all pieces of the plane and removing them to Castle for identification in order to try and determine the cause of the wreck. Investigators stated had the plane continued on for 30 seconds more that the explosion would have happened over the center of Madera.

G. L. McCarty, Dispatcher

TULARE COUNTY

On the first day of July, 1956, the California Division of Forestry took on the fire prevention and fire protection of several parcels of land throughout the State, which had previously been protected by the U. S. Forest Service.

One of these parcels, fully wrapped, was delivered to the Tule Assistant Ranger District in Tulare County. Approximately 35,000 acres of brush and timber were received. The new area acquired is somewhat rugged country with few

roads for access. Two landmarks, Moses and Maggie Mountains, reach up to 9,300 and 10,000 feet respectively.

A check was made with the local U. S. Forest Service Ranger's office in Springville and it was learned that in the previous five years there had been very little fire activity in the area. We breathed a little easier at this report; however, it wasn't long before we realized that "all that glitters is not gold."

During the first week of October quite a storm passed along the Sierras bringing with it lightning which made a few friendly swats at old mother earth. Then, on October 6th, Blue Ridge Lookout reported a smoke along a ridge, directly under Moses Mountain. With the assistance of Ranger Mann and Associate Rosar, the area was scouted by plane. During the trip another smoke was located, this one being just as difficult to reach as the first.

The plan of attack was organized and it was decided that one Assistant Ranger and one Fire Fighter would go to each fire. Oh, lucky me, I got one of the assignments! Upon reaching the end of the access road the first day, we found that the area was closed in with fog and clouds. Since it was rather late in the day we decided to wait until the following morning to start our journey. Five-thirty in the morning came quickly and we were on our way. The fog and clouds were still very dense, but we were determined to finish our assignment. One hundred yards from the truck we were slightly damp. In fact, we were wet! The terrain was steep, rocky, and brushy. No matter, we went on. We had to in order to catch our hard hats. All day we walked. Through this brush field, over that rock pile, down this ridge, down that ridge. No fire! Just fog all day. After a long and tiresome walk we returned to our truck.

October 8, 1956, the fog cleared and another expedition of Assistant Ranger Stanley, Foreman Caldwell, and Fire Fighter Redemer started off under full pack, headed for the elusive fire. Spirits were high despite canteens banging on their backs, handy-talkies clobbering them in the ribs, and the constant thought that if they lost their hard hats it would be a long walk. Everything went well for awhile. The sun was out and not only could we see where we were going, but we were dry. All of a sudden the situation turned from bad to worse. Assistant Stanley jumped from a rock into a rotten log causing the log to scatter and fall apart. The log was also the home of very unhappy wasps and before Fire Fighter Redemer could change his course he was engulfed with these critters who had blood in their eyes. I am not exactly sure what did happen after that. I do remember a sudden flash past me, the rattle of metal against rock, blood-curdling yells, and the crashing of brush. Finally -- quiet. Fire Fighter Redemer was no place in sight. However, Foreman Caldwell and I had little trouble following the trail which had been left by the flying Redemer. First, was the metal helmet, a shovel, a flashlight, scattered brush, and finally, in the distance, we could hear a few loud profane messages which Fire Fighter Redemer was trying to convey to the wasps.

Needless to say, it was a long and tiring trip before we found, put out, and returned from the fire, but everything after the wasp episode was anti-climax.

We, of the Tule Assistant Ranger District, feel sure that we have some of the highest and most rugged protection area in the State; however, after these few lightning fires it might be well to give it back to the U. S. Forest Service. They don't want it!

H. J. (Jim) Stanley
Assistant State Forest Ranger

DISTRICT IV

District IV's field training program got off to an early start after the rains in the last part of October, only to be interrupted, as November drew to a close by fires in Southern California.

Our first major training school was organized in Fresno County and given at the Fresno County Fair Grounds under the supervision of Assistant Ranger Don Perkins, who was ably assisted by Foremen Zanetti and Overstreet from the Mid-Valley Fire District.

Twenty-two (22) schedule B foremen and truck drivers from all ranger units in the District, attended the seven-day structural fire fighting school. A review of our schedule B fires for the past fire season indicated that slightly over 20% of the man-caused zone 1 and 2 fires were either structural or vehicle fires, which certainly indicated the need for this type of training so that we may be better equipped to meet our changing fire control problems. A three-day Defensive Driving School was planned for the last part of November to be given at the Millerton Forest Fire Station in Fresno County. The school was shortened to two days, as 20 men and 7 fire trucks were out of the District assisting on the fires in San Bernardino and San Diego Counties. Advance school had originally been planned for the third day, and it would be a repeat for men who had been through the Defensive Driving program given last April in Fresno County. The Advance School is postponed now until after the first of the year.

On Tuesday, November 15, sixty-six candidates availed themselves of the opportunity to take a forest truck driver's examination which was scheduled and given at the Millerton Forest Fire Station, Friant, California.

Deane L. Bennett
Fire Prevention Officer

The Sierra Forest has been discovered to be breeding a new species of cedar. This became evident while reviewing a recent timber sale advertisement in the Fresno Bee announcing the sale of 40 million board feet of timber on the Sierra National Forest. It was found that amongst other species advertised for sale, some 2,300,000 feet of "Income Cedar" was advertised.

Upon checking with the supervisor's office, they felt that because of the local percentage and good form, their cedar was certainly of high value. However, for obvious reasons, they hesitated to accept a bid on the "Income Cedar" species from this correspondent.

C. E. Metcalf, Deputy State Forester

KINGS COUNTY

Cotton reigned supreme in Kings County through October and as November draws to a close, we find their cotton harvest is approximately 95% completed. The bumper crop has been harvested in record time due to the lack of rainfall throughout the month of November. It has also created a record number of fires in the county. Due to cotton harvesting operations, we have had more cotton fires from the field to the storage yards this year than during any previous year. Primary cause for the increase in fires seems to be carelessness on the part of pickers and handlers throughout the processing. Kings County personnel

are planning their annual fall party for the first of December. We are all looking forward to the culinary arts of the many wives who are preparing the food. As in the past, this will be another potluck affair.

Assistant Ranger, N. O. Stephens and family, donned their sombreros, hopped in the family car, and headed for Old Mexico to spend Thanksgiving Week.

C. E. Lindley
Associate State Forest Ranger

IN MEMORY OF DORIS YOUNG

Doris Young died on September 21, 1956, as the result of an automobile accident which occurred on September 16, 1956. Until her untimely death Doris had been an employee of the State of California for thirty-two years, of which the last nineteen years were in the employ of the Division of Forestry in the Sacramento Administration office.

Doris has always been noted for her devotion to her job, for her loyalty to her supervisors, her fellow employees, and the Division of Forestry, and for her unsolicited willingness to work long and difficult hours under physical handicap in order to perform her job with the maximum of perfection.

Doris' absence from the office is felt and she will be remembered for years to come.

SANTA CLARA

There are some things that never have to happen, and suffering burns during a forest fire is one of them.

As most of you know, two of the men that were burned in the recent San Bernardino forest fire are from District V. One is Assistant Forest Ranger Jim Johnson from Monterey County, and the other is Clarence "Dick" Mannhalter from Santa Clara County.

Assistant Ranger Johnson is new up this way, but an old hand in the Division. Undoubtedly Monterey will forward to us, through News Letter, more information regarding him.

Fire Fighter Mannhalter has been with us four seasons. He is an excellent fire fighter. Just took the State Civil Service Truck Driver examination, and will without doubt, be listed as a new driver in the near future. Dick's Doctor advises he is recovering very rapidly and will soon be able to return home and possibly to work. Dick anticipates making Forestry his career.

All Santa Clara County personnel join in wishing both these men a speedy recovery.

E. R. "Sam" Garza
Forest Fire Dispatcher

DISTRICT VI

Whiffs from District VI. We had another rough September as many of

District II, III, and IV personnel know. Riverside City average 97 for all of September. One of the thirteen Class E fires was west of San Diego's Lake Henshaw - 7,845 acres while the most spectacular was up the 3000' rise in two miles of the San Bernardino Mountains. Just over the top was the usual target of the heavily built-up Lake Arrowhead. Except for three houses, we skirted the head to the east and then stomped her out. That adds one more big block of burned-out watershed just above and east of San Bernardino City, this last one 10,250. Some counts on fire trucks reached 150 while on dozers, 27. With five fire camps plus County Headquarters, and the conglomeration of agencies furnishing the equipment, no figures can be factual. On hose loss, 15,000 feet were lost in one blow-up.

The U. S. Forest Service used seven airplanes to drop 43,000 gallons of water-borate solution. Six of the planes were those stationed at Willows. Our observations of their work point to an expanding use of this method.

The 1956 aggregation of District Headquarters staff which headed CSEA chapters is now out of the drivers' seats. Lew Reese and Cab Brown are now just 1957 delegates instead of 1956 presidents, while Fred Cain changes from secretary to delegate. Cab's chapter changes the reins November 9th at a barbecue. Eddie Brown, Rainbow CDC Foreman, will have to miss due to illness. We wish him rapid recovery.

Boy, if the Chevrolet Factory intends to keep its lead, it better sharpen up. The list of District Headquarters ex-Ford haters now piloting Fords is getting long -- Hank Nelson, Buzz Whitlock, Rex Bassett, Ed Hewitt, and Neil Rice.

With that, we'll ring down the curtain.

Douglas Glenn
Forest Fire Dispatcher

The staff of the News Letter wish all a Merry Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

DIVISIONAL TRAINING

A series of meetings have been held in Districts I, II, III, and V for planning the winter and spring training programs. Districts IV and VI plan to hold their meeting shortly after the first of the year.

All six districts have under way the "Defensive Driving" program. It is estimated that this program will be given in all Ranger Units and at most District Headquarters before the next fire season, and over five hundred of our employees will go through the course if present plans are fulfilled.

District I has set up plans to give Conference Leadership to all of their Assistant State Forest Rangers this year. Both the Rangers and the Associate Rangers and many of their technical people went through this course last year. This course will be conducted by Assistant Deputy State Forester Sloat and Ranger Siler.

District III will have a Conference Leadership course for Rangers scheduled to begin on January 7 at Sutter Hill. The course will be conducted by Assistant Deputy State Forester Tomblin and Training Officer Lefebvre.

A course is to be held in District V from January 28 through February 1 under the leadership of Assistant Deputy State Forester Albertus and Training Officer Lefebvre.

Similar courses for Rangers are being planned for District IV and VI during the spring.

In addition to the above, District I is planning training sessions on budgets, personnel, use of burning permits, and safety. It is possible that a District-wide program on the use of water will also be undertaken. In addition to this, rather an extensive program for training within the Ranger Units has been outlined.

District II will base their program mostly on Ranger Unit programs although a district-wide course in time keeping has been planned.

District III is setting up courses in file control, local use of fire reports, burning permits, instructor training, communications, co-ordination, aerial photography, map reading, safety, first aid, forest management, and audio visual equipment maintenance. In addition, a rather extensive school on campaign fire management is being planned for the Rangers.

The above courses are planned for various job levels, and programs will be conducted until next fire season.

Although, District IV has not yet had their planning meeting, extensive training is under way for Schedule A and Schedule B Foremen and Drivers. Basically, these courses are designed to teach each of these the fundamentals of the work being done by the other class.

